

# Aruba TODAY

On Top Of The News Email: [news@arubatoday.com](mailto:news@arubatoday.com) website: [www.arubatoday.com](http://www.arubatoday.com) Tel: +297 582-7800 Monday, October 8, 2012

# Divided Nation



Voters wait in line outside a polling station in Catia, a slum in Caracas, Venezuela, Oct. 7, 2012. The landmark election could give President Hugo Chavez a new term or replace him with a youthful, more moderate challenger, Henrique Capriles. (Meridith Kohut/The New York Times)

**IAN JAMES**  
**Associated Press**  
**CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)**  
 — President Hugo Chavez's crusade to transform Venezuela into a socialist state, which has bitterly divided the nation, was put to the stiffest electoral test of his

nearly 14 years in power on Sunday in a closely fought presidential election. Both camps said turnout was high, with millions of Venezuelans casting ballots. Long lines formed at many polling centers, with queues of hundreds of vot-

ers snaking along sidewalks and around blocks in many parts of Caracas. Polling places were scheduled to begin closing at 6 p.m. local time, but stations remained open wherever voters were still waiting in line at the close. Officials

began counting ballots at stations where voting finished, but electoral officials gave no indication of when they might begin releasing partial returns. Chavez's challenger, Henrique Capriles, united the opposition in a contest be-

tween two sides that distrust each other so deeply that some expressed concerns whether a close election result would be respected.

**Continued on Page 3**



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# Union: Border agents opened fire on each other

**BOB CHRISTIE**  
Associated Press

**PHOENIX (AP)** — The U.S. Border Patrol agent killed last week in a shooting in southern Arizona apparently opened fire on two fellow

agents thinking they were armed smugglers and was killed when they returned from different directions early Tuesday and encountered each other in an area of heavy brush, National Bor-

der Patrol Council president George McCubbin said. Agent Nicholas Ivie apparently opened fire first and wounded one of the other agents but was killed in the return fire. "I don't know what it was he saw or heard that triggered this whole event," McCubbin said. "Unfortunately it resulted in his death and another agent injured."



Christy Ivie, center, wife of Nicolas Ivie, holds back tears during news conference about slain U.S. Customs and Border Protection agent Nicolas Ivie, in Sierra Vista, Ariz.

(AP Photo/Gary M. Williams)

der Patrol Council president George McCubbin said. Agent Nicholas Ivie apparently opened fire first and wounded one of the other agents but was killed in the return fire.

"I don't know what it was he saw or heard that triggered this whole event," McCubbin said. "Unfortunately it resulted in his death and another agent injured."

Acting Cochise County Sheriff Rod Rothrock confirmed the scenario but would not say if Ivie was the first to shoot, saying that was up to the federal agencies involved.

The new details add to a FBI statement Friday that the shooting appeared to be a friendly fire incident that involved no one but the agents.

Sensors are set up in different areas along the U.S.-

Mexico border to detect smugglers or illegal immigrants, with Border Patrol agents responding when they're set off. The shooting occurred in a rugged hilly area about five miles north of the border near Bisbee, Arizona, an area known for illegal trafficking.

McCubbin and Rothrock both said the two sets of agents knew the others were heading to the area on foot but apparently didn't know they were so close. McCubbin said he'd been briefed by the agency, while Rothrock's agency has been involved with the investigation.

"It was dark, very, very rugged terrain, and what they could see of each other was further obscured by the fact that there was brush and cacti and stuff like that between them," Rothrock said. □

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### US panel:

## Chinese tech giants pose security threat

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The House Intelligence Committee is warning that China's two leading technology firms pose a major security threat to the United States.

The panel says regulators should block mergers and acquisitions in the U.S. by Huawei Technologies Ltd. and ZTE Corp. It also ad-

vises that U.S. government systems not include equipment from the two firms, and that private U.S. companies avoid business with them.

The results of the committee's yearlong probe, due to be released Monday, could hamper Huawei and ZTE's ambitions to expand their business in America. □





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# Venezuela election sees unprecedented turnout

Continued from front

"We will recognize the results, whatever they are," Chavez told reporters after casting his vote in Caracas. Chavez was greeted at the polling center by American actor Danny Glover and Guatemalan Nobel Peace Prize laureate Rigoberta Menchu. He said he was pleased to see a "massive turnout." Capriles said after voting that the election had been free of violence. "We've shown the world that we're resolving our differences peacefully through the vote, as it should be," Capriles said. He noted that he had never lost an election and said he was wearing his "lucky" brown suede shoes.

"Today Venezuela is going to win," Capriles said. "We're going to respect what the people say." The stakes in the country with the world's largest known oil reserves couldn't be higher.

If Chavez wins a new six-year term, he gets a free hand to push for an even bigger state role in the economy, further limit dissent and continue to befriend rivals of the United States. With a Capriles win, an abrupt foreign policy shift can be expected, including halting preferential oil deals with allies such as Cuba, along with a loosening of state economic controls and an increase in private investment. A tense transition would likely follow until the January inauguration because Chavez's political machine thoroughly controls the wheels of government.

Some Venezuelans were nervous about what might happen if disputes erupt over the election's announced outcome.

"There's a little anxiety on one side and also on the other," said Deyanira Duarte, who voted for Capriles

the people are going to re-elect Hugo Rafael Chavez Frias." At many polling places,

voters started lining up hours before polls opened at dawn. Some said they waited in line for more than

four hours to vote, while in other areas the lines moved more quickly.

Some passed the time outside polling centers with folding chairs, chatting with relatives and friends. Others held umbrellas to block the sun. Maria Leonis was selling CDs of Chavez's campaign theme music on a sidewalk next to a polling center. "Today I've sold about 100 CDs, just Chavez's song," Leonis said, adding that she supported Chavez because "I want to keep seeing change." Chavez's critics said the president has inflamed divisions by labeling his opponents "fascists," "Yankees" and "neo-Nazis," while Chavez's loyalists alleged Capriles would halt generous government programs that assist the poor. "I'm really tired of all this polarization," said Lissette Garcia, a 39-year-old clothes seller and Capriles supporter who voted in the affluent Caracas district of Las Mercedes. □



Residents wait in line at a polling station to vote in the presidential election in the Catia neighborhood of Caracas, Venezuela, Sunday, Oct. 7, 2012. President Hugo Chavez is running for re-election against opposition candidate Henrique Capriles.

(AP Photo/Rodrigo Abd)

in downtown Caracas. She said she was worried about what could happen if there was a dispute over the results.

Others said they were simply pleased to be out backing their candidate.

Carlos Julio Silva, a bodyguard employed by a private security company, said whatever his faults, Chavez deserved re-election for helping people with programs including free medical care and public housing.

"There is corruption, there's plenty of bureaucracy, but the people have never had a leader who cared about this country," Silva said after voting for Chavez at a school in the Caracas slum of Petare. "That's why

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# Obama raises California cash for race's last month

WASHINGTON (AP) — Fresh off his strongest fundraising month this year, President Barack Obama is looking to raise millions of dollars from celebrities and wealthy donors in California with just one month left in a tightening race.

The two-day swing through the solidly Democratic state highlights the critical role that fundraising will play in the campaign's final weeks as Obama and his Republican rival, Mitt Romney, escalate their barrage of television ads in competitive states like Ohio in the run-up to the Nov. 6 election. The president is to return there Tuesday.

Romney, campaigning in up-for-grabs Florida, sought to build on the momentum from a debate performance last week that even Democrats conceded was "masterful." The Republican told a crowd of about 12,000 in Port St. Lucie that he had enjoyed himself,

ticking off a list of Obama shortcomings he said he had exposed during the first debate.

"Now of course, days later,

ing spoke, someone in the crowd of supporters behind him held up a giant Israeli flag alongside smaller American flags, under-



The shadow of Air Force One with President Barack Obama aboard is cast on a parking lot as it arrives at Los Angeles International Airport on Air Force One, Sunday, Oct. 7, 2012, in Los Angeles.

(AP Photo/Carolyn Kaster)

we're hearing his excuses," Romney said. "And next January we'll be watching him leave the White House for the last time."

As Romney finished speak-

ing the amplified role that foreign affairs and the Middle East is playing as the presidential race draws to a close. Romney on Monday plans a major foreign pol-

icy address at the Virginia Military Institute, intended to throw Obama back on his heels over his handling of unrest in Libya and elsewhere.

Obama campaign spokeswoman Jennifer Psaki, dismissing what she called Romney's fourth or fifth attempt to explain his global intentions, said the bar is high for Romney to convince voters he's prepared to be commander in chief. "We are not going to be lectured by someone who's been an unmitigated disaster on foreign policy every time he sticks his toe in the foreign policy waters," Psaki said aboard Air Force One as Obama made his way to California.

Even as Romney sought to reap further rewards from his debate performance, a string of good news for the president threatened to steal the former Massachusetts governor's spotlight.

A jobs report Friday showing

unemployment at the lowest levels of Obama's presidency, down to 7.8 percent, was quickly followed Saturday by a fundraising report showing Obama and Democrats had raised \$181 million in September. It was their best fundraising month of the campaign, but fell short of their record \$190 million raised in September 2008 as the president campaigned for his first term.

Romney's campaign has not released its report for the month, and Republicans sought to downplay Obama's financial advantage. The party's national chairman, Reince Priebus, said he had been counting all along on being outtraised by Obama and Democrats. "This isn't going to come down to money. This is going to come down to heart," Priebus said. "We'll beat them on the ground, and we'll have all the money we need to be competitive." □



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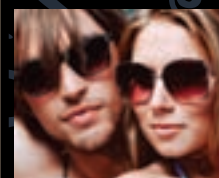
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# Pharmacy linked to outbreak issues recall

**FRAMINGHAM, Massachusetts (AP)** — The pharmacy that distributed a steroid linked to an outbreak of fungal meningitis has issued a voluntary recall of all of its products, calling the move a precautionary measure. The New England Compounding Center announced the recall over the weekend. The company said in a news release that the move was taken out of an abundance of caution because of the risk of contamination. It says there is no indication that any other products have been contaminated. The Food and Drug Administration had previously told health professionals not to use any products distributed by the center. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention posted updated figures to its website Sunday showing

there are now more than 90 confirmed cases of the rare form of fungal meningitis. The outbreak spans nine states and has killed at least seven people. The states with reported cases are: Florida, Indiana, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, North Carolina, Ohio, Tennessee and Virginia. The steroid linked to the outbreak had already been recalled, and health officials have been scrambling to notify anyone who may have received an injection of it. The Massachusetts pharmacy that made it has said it is cooperating with investigators. It is not yet known exactly how many people may have been affected, though it could affect hundreds or even thousands of people who received the steroid injections for back pain from July to Septem-



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(AP Photo/Stephan Savoia)

# Friends baffled by killing of fellow college student

**MOBILE, Alabama (AP)** — Classmates and friends are questioning why a police officer fatally shot a University of South Alabama freshman who was naked and had been banging on a window at police headquarters. Campus officials didn't give any indication that Gil Collar, 18, had a weapon when he was shot. A university spokesman said he was fatally wounded about 1:30 a.m. Saturday after an officer heard a bang on a window and went outside to investigate. A statement issued by university spokesman Keith Ayers said Collar, who wrestled in high school before enrolling at South Alabama, assumed a "fighting stance" and chased an officer before being shot. The officer tried to retreat numerous times to defuse the situation before opening fire, the school said. But sophomore Tyler Kendrick said campus authorities haven't provided any satisfying answers about why Collar was killed. "Really, it just upsets me that there's no other way

to apprehend an unarmed student rather than shooting him. I don't understand that," Kendrick said. Student Joshua Frye said it seemed the officer could have used something other than a firearm to stop Collar. "What I feel is that a cop has more than a gun," he said. The officer was placed on paid leave, and an autopsy will determine if drugs or alcohol were involved. Campus officials said the confrontation was recorded by security cameras. The video and other information has been turned over to the district attorney and the Mobile County Sheriff's Office, which will review the shooting. Collar was the second person killed on the South Alabama campus since last year. A university freshman was charged with murder in the fatal stabbing of another teenager who was slain in an on-campus apartment in July 2011. The victim was a visitor to campus and was not enrolled, authorities said. □

ber. Meningitis is caused by the inflammation of meninges, which are protective membranes covering the

brain and spinal cord. Fungal meningitis is not contagious like its more common viral and bacterial counterparts. □

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## Some Republicans see little choice but to back Akin

JOHN ELIGON

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**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** — For establishment Republicans, it is decision time in the Missouri Senate race.

Should they return to Rep. Todd Akin's corner?

Many quickly withdrew their support for Akin weeks ago after his controversial comments about abortion and belief that victims of "legitimate rape" have a biological mechanism to fight off pregnancy, hoping to force him aside so another Republican candidate could battle the Democratic incumbent, Sen. Claire McCaskill.

But Akin called their bluff. He stayed in the race, reckoning that election math would oblige them to stick with him.

Now, with Akin's name legally bound to the ballot, the election approaching and new polling data presenting a clearer idea of his chances, Republicans are deliberating whether to renege on their reneging.

It is one of the trickiest dilemmas facing Republicans this election cycle: Whether to give up on a race that could help decide which party controls

"Are they willing to let a guy who should win a seat lose a seat because they sat on their hands?" asked Michael Centanni, the chairman of Freedom's Defense

of Akin. "They're going to be in a much worse situation if he ends up losing by a point and they sat on the sidelines."

Newt Gingrich, who attended a fundraiser for Akin on Sept. 24 near St. Louis, said Republicans who rushed to judgment needed to consider the error of their decision.

"Akin's not the only one who made a mistake," Gingrich said in an interview. "Just as he had to eat a little bit of crow, there are some other folks" who will, too.

Some of the deep-pocketed donors, most notably the National Republican Senatorial Committee, who withdrew their financing and support of Akin will inevitably return, Gingrich said.

"I don't see how they'll avoid getting in the race," he added. But Republicans should focus on more than the Senate math, said John C. Danforth, a former Republican senator from Mis-

souri who distanced himself from Akin after the comments in August.

"Akin has come to symbolize a version of the Republican Party that's just not acceptable to an awful lot of people," Danforth said in an interview. "I don't know if he can win or not in the election in the Senate race, but I think this is bigger than one Senate seat. I think it's the brand of the Republican Party, and I think he taints the Republican Party." While Danforth is maintaining his opposition to Akin, other Republicans are returning to his corner. Sen. Roy Blunt of Missouri and two other former senators from the state, Christopher S. Bond and Jim Talent, recently endorsed Akin after initially urging him to step aside after his comments about rape and abortion. "They're going to have to explain to voters whether they support his position on these issues or whether they're just acting in political expediency," said Caitlin Legacki, a spokeswoman for McCaskill.

Blunt declined a request for an interview. But in a statement released shortly after the Sept. 25 deadline for dropping out of the race, he gave Akin an endorsement that sounded more obligatory than excited. "Congressman Akin and I don't agree on everything, but he and I agree the Senate majority must change," Blunt said. "From Governor Romney to the county courthouse, I'll be working for the Republican ticket in Missouri, and that includes Todd Akin." □



**Rep. Todd Akin (R-Mo.) shakes hands with a man in Harrisonville, Mo. Akin, who is running for U.S. Senate, lost support after he made comments about abortion and "legitimate rape," and Republicans are deliberating whether to give up on a race that could help decide which party controls the Senate or stand by him and risk having his words hurt the standing of Republican candidates in other states.**

(Steve Hebert/The New York Times)

the U.S. Senate or stand by Akin and risk hurting Republican candidates in other states.

Fund, which announced late last month that it would spend a quarter of a million dollars in support

## Mother of police victim: 'I want no cover-up'

COLIN MOYNIHAN

© 2012 New York Times

**NEW YORK** — The mother of an unarmed man who was fatally shot by a police detective after being pulled over on a highway in Queens made a tearful plea this weekend for a full and thorough inquiry into the circumstances surrounding the shooting of her son, Noel Polanco.

"I'm not going to give up until I get justice," Cecilia Reyes told a crowd of a

few hundred at the offices of the Rev. Al Sharpton's National Action Network in Harlem. "I want justice, I want no cover-up, I want answers," she said as Sharpton stood alongside her.

Polanco, 22, was driving on the Grand Central Parkway just after 5 a.m. Friday when he was pulled over by uniformed officers, members of the Emergency Service Unit, riding in unmarked vans, who said that he had twice cut them off.

Officers, who had been on their way to execute a search warrant in Brooklyn, rushed toward the car "like an army," said one of Polanco's passengers, Diane Defarri. A second passenger, an off-duty police officer named Vanessa Rodriguez, was asleep in the back seat. As the officers surrounded Polanco's car they shouted for those inside to show their hands, Defarri said, adding that Polanco's hands were on

the steering wheel of his black Honda.

A moment later a detective, Hassan Hamdy, fired a single shot that struck Polanco in the abdomen and killed him.

On Friday evening, Police Commissioner Raymond W. Kelly visited Reyes at her home. Sharpton said Saturday morning that he and others would support her call for a full investigation and explanation of what happened. □



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# NYC woman decides to stay on life support

**ANEMONA HARTOCOLLIS**

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**NEW YORK** — A terminally ill Queens woman who won a court battle against her parents to allow a hospital to disconnect a breathing tube has decided that she wants to live out the rest of her life, the woman's lawyer said this weekend.

That decision represents a striking change in direction for SungEun Grace Lee, 28, a bank financial manager who is paralyzed from the neck down and forced to communicate by blinking — once for yes, twice for no — or by mouthing words.

On Friday, a four-judge appellate court panel upheld a lower-court ruling that she was mentally capable of making decisions about her own care, handing a defeat to her parents, who argued that her medicated state had made her incompetent.

Her lawyer, David A. Smith, said that Lee told him of her decision from her hospital bed Saturday morning and

said that she had given her father, the Rev. Man Ho Lee, a pastor in a Korean church in Queens the



**The Rev. Man Ho Lee and his wife, Jin Ah Lee, at a news conference about their daughter, SungEun Grace Lee, who is on life support with terminal brain cancer, at their lawyer's office in Long Island, N.Y. Lee, who is fully conscious, is at the center of a tug of war that pits a patient's right to die against her family's desire to keep her alive.**

(Chang W. Lee/The New York Times)

she could no longer bear to live on life support and wanted to be allowed to die. Her parents said that

she was being pressured by doctors who were able to influence her because she was heavily medicated.

Of Lee's apparent change of heart, Smith said: "When I asked her if she's doing this to make peace with her parents, she told me she was doing it to make peace with her parents and to make peace with God."

A North Shore spokesman, Terry Lynam, said the hospital would honor her wishes, "whatever they may be."

Her parents could not immediately be reached for comment, and her brother, Paul Lee, did not immediately respond to an email about the developments.

Ethicists said it was unusual for a life-support case in

which the patient was conscious to become so acrimonious.

"I think in other cultures the locus of decision-making is more with the family than the patient," said Dr. J. Randall Curtis, director of the palliative care center at University of Washington. "It's not terribly unusual in our increasingly multicultural society to have this clash, where Western-trained clinicians really view the patient as the sole determinant of all decision-making and the family sees it different."

Curtis said at least one famous study of seriously ill patients found that even in the West most defer to relatives in a conflict over their treatment. □

proxy right to make health care decisions should she become incapacitated.

For more than a week, Smith and her doctors at North Shore University Hospital in Manhasset on Long Island had contended that

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| <b>RESIDENT EVEL 4 RETRIBUTION</b><br>daily: 7:00 9:15<br>matinee:<br>late show: 11:45 <b>SP PG-13</b>    | <b>RESIDENT EVEL 4 RETRIBUTION</b><br>daily: 7:15 9:30<br>matinee:<br>late show: 12:00 <b>SP PG-13</b>    |
| <b>TROUBEL WITH THE CURVE</b><br>daily: 9:00<br>matinee:<br>late show: 11:30 <b>SP PG-13</b>              | <b>TROUBEL WITH THE CURVE</b><br>daily: 9:15<br>matinee:<br>late show: 11:45 <b>SP PG-13</b>              |
| <b>HIT AND RUN</b><br>daily: 9:15<br>matinee:<br>late show: 11:30 <b>NL R</b>                             | <b>HIT AND RUN</b><br>daily: 7:30 9:45<br>matinee:<br>late show: 12:00 <b>NL R</b>                        |
| <b>NEMO</b><br>daily: 4:45<br>matinee: 12:15 2:30<br>late show: <b>SP PG</b>                              | <b>NEMO</b><br>daily: 5:00<br>matinee: 2:15<br>late show: <b>SP PG</b>                                    |
| <b>THE COLD LIGHT OF DAY</b><br>daily: 7:30 9:45<br>matinee:<br>late show: 12:00 <b>NL PG-13</b>          | <b>THE COLD LIGHT OF DAY</b><br>daily: 9:15<br>matinee: 11:25<br>late show: 12:00 <b>NL PG-13</b>         |
| <b>HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA 2D</b><br>daily: 5:00<br>matinee: 12:45 3:00<br>late show: <b>SP PG</b>             | <b>HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA 2D</b><br>daily: 4:45<br>matinee: 2:30<br>late show: <b>SP PG</b>                   |

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# Israeli jets fly mock raids over south Lebanon

**JOSEF FEDERMAN  
ZEINA KARAM**

**Associated Press**

**BEIRUT (AP)** — Israeli warplanes swooped low over Lebanese villages Sunday in a menacing show of force apparently aimed at the Hezbollah guerrilla group after a mysterious raid by an unmanned aircraft that was shot out of Israeli skies over the weekend.

Israel was still investigating Saturday's incident, but Hezbollah quickly emerged as the leading suspect because it has an arsenal of sophisticated Iranian weapons and a history of trying to deploy similar aircraft.

The Israeli military said the drone approached Israel's southern Mediterranean coast and flew deep into Israeli airspace before warplanes shot it down about 20 minutes later. Israeli news reports said the drone was not carrying explosives and appeared to be on a reconnaissance mission.

Military officials would not say where the drone originated or who produced it, but they ruled out the Gaza Strip, which is ruled by Hamas, a group not known to possess drones. That left Hezbollah as the most likely culprit and suggested the drone may have flown with the blessing of Iran. Tensions are high between Israel and Iran over Tehran's suspect nuclear program.

"It is an Iranian drone that was launched by Hezbollah," Israeli lawmaker Miri Regev, a former chief spokeswoman for the Israeli military, wrote on her Twitter feed. "Hezbollah and Iran continue to try to collect information in every possible way in order to harm Israel."

She did not offer any further

evidence and was not immediately available for comment.

Hezbollah officials would not comment on speculation that the group had launched the drone.

The Israeli dailies Yediot Ahronot and Maariv published maps based on military "estimates" that claimed to show the route taken by the drone.

The maps said the aircraft

took off south of the Lebanese coastal city of Sidon, headed south and then turned east over the Gaza Strip and into Israel. Yediot also claimed the drone was made in Iran.

The Israeli military said it began tracking the aircraft over the Mediterranean but waited until it was over an empty, desert area to bring it down in order to avoid casualties on the ground.

Sunday's Israeli air raids, buzzing over pro-Hezbollah villages in southern Lebanon, appeared to be aimed at reminding the guerrilla group of Israel's air superiority.

At times of heightened tensions, the Israeli air force often carries out mock raids over Lebanese territory. Israel has U.S.-made F-15 and F-16 warplanes, but it was not clear exactly what type of planes were flown Sunday.

Lebanon's national news agency said the planes flew low over the market town of Nabatiyeh and nearby villages.

With a formidable arsenal that rivals that of the Lebanese army, Hezbollah is already under pressure in Lebanon from rivals who accuse it of putting Lebanon at risk of getting sucked into regional turmoil. □



Israeli Army vehicles and helicopters are seen in an open area as they search for the remains of a drone in the Negev southern Israel, Saturday, Oct. 6, 2012. Israeli jets scrambled to intercept a drone that crossed into Israeli airspace Saturday from the Mediterranean Sea, bringing it down without incident in the south of the country, a military spokeswoman said.

(AP Photo/Yehuda Lachiani)

## France security on alert at religious sites

**ANGELA CHARLTON**  
**Associated Press**

**PARIS (AP)** — France is boosting security at Jewish and other religious sites after blanks were fired at a synagogue and police accused a suspected cell of radical Islamists of ties to a grenade attack on a kosher grocery.

President Francois Hollande sought Sunday to allay tensions between Jews and Muslims aggravated by a recent series of violent incidents in the

country.

Hollande singled out hateful extremists for criticism and urged respect for all religions in a country that is officially secular, but which has Western Europe's largest Jewish and Muslim communities.

He said that authorities "in the coming days, in the coming hours" would increase security at religious sites so they won't be subject to the kind of attack that targeted a synagogue in the Paris suburb of Argen-

teuil on Saturday night.

A synagogue representative said witnesses heard what sounded like a weapon being fired and that police said blanks had been fired and empty bullet casings found. Local police would not comment on the incident to the AP. Services were canceled at the synagogue Saturday night because of the incident, the representative said on condition of anonymity because a police investi-

gation is under way.

No one was injured, though the rabbi and about a dozen others were inside the synagogue at the time, according to the Jewish Community Protection Service, a group set up to monitor anti-Semitic incidents in France. The incident came hours after police killed one man and arrested 11 in raids across France targeting a suspected cell accused of links to a grenade attack on a kosher grocery store last month. □



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## Kuwaiti ruler sets up vote

**HUSSAIN AL-QATARI**  
**Associated Press**

**KUWAIT CITY (AP)** — Kuwait's ruler dissolved parliament Sunday, a step toward ending months of political gridlock and calling the second elections this year that could again swing in favor of opposition groups led by Islamist factions. The move by Kuwait's Western-allied emir, announced on state-run media, followed a failed attempt last month by the government to overturn a voting district law that appeared to favor the opposition. New elections must now be held within 60 days. Kuwait is one of America's most strategic Gulf military allies. Its strategic importance to Washington rose sharply after the U.S. troop withdrawal from Iraq in December. It is now the hub for U.S. ground forces in the Gulf region, where the U.S. and its Arab allies seek to counter Iran's military buildup. Kuwait has been locked in a political limbo for months as the government tried to challenge the voting system in the February elections, which gave Islamists and allies control of the 50-seat parliament. □

# Turkey, Syria trade fire at border

**MEHMET GUZEL**  
**ZEINA KARAM**  
**Associated Press**

**AKCAKALE, Turkey (AP)** — Turkey and Syria fired artillery and mortars across their volatile border for a fifth consecutive day on Sunday, in one of the most serious and prolonged flare-ups of violence along the frontier.

The exchange of fire stoked fears that Syria's civil war will escalate into a regional conflagration drawing in NATO member Turkey, once an ally of President Bashar Assad but now a key supporter of the rebels fighting to topple him.

Turkish Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoglu had warned on Saturday that Ankara would respond forcefully to each errant Syrian shell that lands on Turkish soil.

Ankara's warning was coupled by an apparent diplomatic push by the Turkish leadership to promote Syrian Vice President Farouk al-Sharaa as a possible figure to head a transitional administration to end the conflict in the

country.

In an interview with Turkish state television TRT Saturday, Davutoglu said that al-Sharaa was a figure "whose hands are not contaminated in blood" and

been a controversial figure since the start of the uprising.

He appeared in public in late August for the first time in weeks, ending re-



**Turkish military station at the border gate with Syria, across from Syrian rebel-controlled Tel Abyad town, in Akcakale, Turkey, Sunday, Oct. 7, 2012.**

therefore acceptable to Syrian opposition groups. It was not clear whether the Turkish stance was coordinated with other allies, but the candid remarks by Davutoglu suggested some consensus might be emerging over a future role for him.

Al-Sharaa, 73, a close associate and longtime loyalist to the Assad family, has

peated rumors that he had defected. The regime has suffered a string of prominent defections in recent months, though Assad's inner circle and military have largely kept their cohesive stance behind him.

Early on in the uprising, the Syrian president delegated to al-Sharaa, a skilled diplomat, responsibility for holding a dialogue with the op-

position. A Sunni from the southern town of Daraa, birthplace of the Syrian uprising, al-Sharaa's silence since the start of the uprising made him a prime candidate for rumors that he broke with the regime.

"No one knows the system better than Farouk al-Sharaa," said Davutoglu, adding that al-Sharaa has not been involved in the violence and massacres in Syria.

The Syrian opposition is deeply fragmented, and various factions would likely disagree on whether they would accept him to lead a transitional government. Meanwhile, there was little sign that the exchange of fire near the border, although still at a fairly low level, was ebbing. It began five days ago when a Syrian shell killed five civilians in a Turkish border town. Turkey's parliament subsequently approved a bill that would allow cross border military operations there.

Damascus offered a rare apology, but shells and mortar rounds continue to fly into Turkish territory. □

(AP Photo)

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**Spain:**

**56 cities gripped by anti-austerity protests**

**HAROLD HECKLE  
Associated Press**

**MADRID (AP)** — Tens of thousands of people marched in 56 Spanish cities Sunday to protest punishing austerity cuts they say will only increase unemployment and job insecurity in a country experiencing its second recession in three years and record high unemployment. Around 20,000 people marched in Madrid behind a banner that said, "They want to ruin the country. We have to stop them." The rally in Spain's capital was supported by 150 organizations. Protesters chanted slogans against cuts and waved placards reading "youth without jobs, society with no future." That is a reference to the youth unemployment rate, which surpasses 50 percent. Spain's overall jobless



A woman holds a banner reading 'Without fighting, what would you get?' during a demonstration in Madrid, Spain, Sunday, Oct. 7, 2012. Thousands of people called by 150 organizations are marching in 56 Spanish cities to protest punishing austerity cuts they say will only increase unemployment and job insecurity.

(AP Photo/Alberto Di Lollo)

rate is nearly 25 percent and social unrest is on the rise.

"They are abusing the lower social classes," 54-year-old teacher Luis Diaz said. "By backing banks, they are torturing the working class and badly affecting public education, health care and pensions when what they should be doing is exactly the opposite."

Trade union leaders said the marches warned the government that tempers were rising and a general strike was brewing.

Workers Commissions union spokesman Ignacio Fernandez Toxo said a likely date for the strike could be as early as Nov. 14.

The government has implemented tough austerity measures over its nine months in office. □

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Pakistan blocks anti-US protest in tribal region

ISHTIAQ MAHSUD

Associated Press

**TANK, Pakistan (AP)** — The Pakistani military blocked a convoy carrying thousands of Pakistanis and a small contingent of U.S. anti-war activists from entering a lawless tribal region along the border with Afghanistan on Sunday to protest American drone strikes. The group, led by cricket star turned politician Imran Khan and his political party, was turned back just miles from the border of South Waziristan.

After an hour of fruitless negotiations, Khan announced that the caravan would backtrack to the city of Tank, about 15 kilometers (nine miles) away. There, he delivered a speech to the crowd of about 10,000. Khan has harshly criticized the Pakistani government's cooperation with Washington in the fight against Islamist militants. He has been especially out-

spoken against U.S. drone strikes targeting militants and has argued that Islamabad's alliance with Washington is the main reason Pakistan is facing a home-grown Taliban insurgency.

the war across the border in Afghanistan.

"We want to give a message to America that the more you carry out drone attacks, the more people will hate you," Khan told

crowd that waved banners saying "Down with America," and "The friend of America is the traitor of the nation."

Pakistan's tribal regions, such as North and South

Waziristan, border Afghanistan and serve as bases for militant groups such as the Taliban to stage raids across the border into Afghanistan. □



American citizens, hold a banner during a peace march organized by Pakistan's cricket star turned politician Imran Khan's party, not pictured, in Tank, Pakistan, Sunday, Oct. 7, 2012. The Pakistani military blocked a convoy carrying thousands of Pakistanis and a small contingent of U.S. anti-war activists from entering a lawless tribal region along the border with Afghanistan on Sunday to protest American drone strikes.

(AP Photo/Mohammad Hussain)

He has suggested before that militant activity in Pakistan's tribal areas will dissipate when the U.S. ends

the crowd. The anti-American sentiment, always high in Pakistan, was evident in the

Libya:

Parliament votes to remove PM

ESAM MOHAMED

Associated Press

**TRIPOLI, Libya (AP)** — Libya's parliament ousted the country's new prime minister in a no-confidence vote on Sunday, the latest blow to hopes that political factions could agree on a government charged with restoring stability after last year's civil war.

Mustafa Abushagur was the first prime minister to be elected after the 2011 overthrow of dictator Moammar Gadhafi. He represented an offshoot of the country's oldest anti-Gadhafi opposition movement, and was considered a compromise candidate acceptable to both liberals and Islamists. But his proposed Cabinet was struck down by a legislature representing dozens of divided tribes, towns, and regions across the country, many of whom feel they are owed the spoils of victory over Gadhafi. He was forced to withdraw his first ministerial line-up under pressure and his second at-

tempt to submit one resulted in his ouster. In a short statement on Libya al-Wataniya TV after the vote, Abushagur said he respected the decision made by the General National Congress as part of Libya's democracy but warned of instability if it takes too long to elect his replacement.

"There should be quickness in the election of the prime minister and formation of the government so the country does not slip into a vacuum," he said.

He had 25 days from his Sep. 12 appointment by parliament to form a Cabinet and win the legislature's approval, but that deadline expired on Sunday. The Congress voted 125 to 44 in favor of removing him as prime minister, with 17 abstaining from voting. He had just put forth 10 names for key ministerial posts Sunday when the no-confidence vote was held.

Until a replacement can be elected by the parliament, management of Libya's government is in the hands of the legislature. □



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# Brazilians voting in 'Clean Record' elections

JENNY BARCHFIELD

Associated Press

**RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)** — Brazil's nationwide municipal elections Sunday may be most notable for who won't be taking office.

A newly effective "Clean Record" good-governance law bars people convicted of a wide range of crimes from serving in political office. This is the first full nationwide election held under the measure since it was upheld by Brazil's Supreme Court.

Observers say the bill is a watershed in Brazilian politics, long dominated by strongmen who milk the system for personal gain and that of their cronies and who often resort to shady tactics to hold onto power.

"It's a radical change of culture, vision and moral compass," said Jorge Sanchez, president of the anti-corruption watchdog group Amarribo Brasil. "It's the beginning of a long, slow process, but one that I'm confident will change the political landscape here in five to 10 years so that it's upstanding people and not the tainted ones who will start to naturally gravitate toward politics."

Under the measure, those convicted of charges such as fraud, drug trafficking, money-laundering, sexual assault and murder are barred from running for public office for eight years. Previously, those with criminal records were only ineligible if their cases could no longer be appealed to a higher court, a glacial process in Brazil's overstrained justice system, where appeals can run on for decades.

"We've seen cases in years

back where people with known links to organized crime, drug traffickers and other criminal groups get into politics as a way of shielding themselves from

prosecution, and that of course is very detrimental to the whole system," said Ricardo Ismael, a political science researcher at Rio's PUC Catholic University.

The law was the fruit of a rare show of grassroots organizing. Supporters flooded lawmakers with some 4 million emails as well as a 1.3 million-signature petition. The mobilization was so effective that even those legislators who spoke against the measure ended up voting for it, and it passed the Senate unanimously in 2010.

Voters lining up in Rio's beachside neighborhood of Ipanema to choose their mayor welcomed the law, but some held back their judgment of its effectiveness, saying they'd have to see it work before believing it was really going to change the culture.

"It's about time," said Vinicius da Mata Oliveira, a retiree. "My whole life I've been seeing people run for office that I wouldn't trust to take care of my dog. The country is changing for the better; this is an essential part of that change." Waiting next to him, Fernando de Aguiar Fonseca said he'd need to see dirty candidates not being allowed to take office before he'd really believe the law was here to stay.

"Some laws here don't 'stick,'" he said. "I want to see them thrown out. I want

to see these guys whose families have power, who have friends and connections and important patrons in politics, not be allowed to take office. Then I'll say, yes, things are changing." Already, kinks have emerged.

Out of the around 480,000 candidates running for mayor or city council in 5,565 cities and towns across Brazil, 2,969 are being examined by Brazil's top electoral court in connection with the Clean Record law. The volume of red-flagged candidacies is so high that the court has processed only 764 of them to date — and it has not released a list of the candidates it has barred from taking office even if they win their races.

A spokeswoman for the court said that the list will be released in the coming days and that the court hopes to get through all the cases by December, before the newly elected officials take office. If the court disqualifies a winning candidate, the second-place finisher would take office instead.

The Clean Record law is part of a broader crackdown on corruption that has swept Brazil. □



Soldiers patrol during municipal elections in the Complexo da Mare slum in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Sunday, Oct. 7, 2012. Voters across Latin America's biggest country are electing mayors and municipal council members.

(AP Photo/Silvia Izquierdo)

## Rebels burn 3 helicopters in Peru

**LIMA, Peru (AP)** — Marxist Shining Path rebels have burned three helicopters that were being used by an international gas pipeline consortium at a jungle airstrip in Peru on Saturday, the country's military announced.

The attack came as U.S. Defense Secretary Leon Panetta was visiting Peru, though there was no immediate indication it was related.

The military Joint Command spokesman, Col. Alejandro Lujan, said no

one was injured or kidnapped in the attack well before dawn in the town of Kiteni in south-central Peru. He said troops had been sent to the airstrip, which is normally guarded by private security.

The helicopters were owned by local companies and had been contracted by the consortium known as Transportadora de Gas del Peru, made up of Argentine, U.S. Algerian, Korean, French and Belgian companies.

Kiteni Mayor Hugo Chavez said the airport "is almost a kilometer (about half a mile) away from the center of the town and there has never before been an attack of that type in the area."

The original Shining Path largely disappeared after police caught its messianic founder Abimael Guzman in 1992, but small remnants have been staging a comeback in recent years. □





## The Blue Lobster Restaurant celebrates its First Anniversary

The Blue Lobster restaurant proudly arrives at its first anniversary, completing its first full year of operations catering its exceptional service and high quality food to both locals and tourist alike.

For the Blue Lobster it was a year full of expectations, hard work, and extraordinary effort, to bring out the best image and to reach in the heart of the Aruban market the name of the "newest and best Lobster/Seafood restaurant on the island. It was also a year full of satisfaction, due to the extraordinary response from our local community as well as from the tourist market, which visited The blue Lobster by the thousands in 2012.

The Blue lobster is proud of its concept which still is unique and comes along with highly professional service and the best food quality of its kind in Aruba (actual customer's words). It is no mere coincidence that The Blue Lobster has been chosen and frequented by Doctors, Lawyers, Notaries, local politicians, bankers, Executives, merchants, as well a great number of local and overseas families.

This highly distinguished clientele found at The Blue Lobster a cozy, tranquil and relaxing refuge, for their business lunch and private



dinners of exuberant quality and warm personalized service which additionally brings them the real value for money.

It's very clear and understandable for The Blue Lobster that "time is gold" and that is why executives and merchants visiting the blue lobster for diner or lunch, knowing that food would be served fast and on time, and if the case be, they can get out fast and go back to their professional endeavors without delays. The great variety of international dishes along with the 18-plus LOBSTER dishes, made out of this wonderful restaurant one which is very attractive to an exclusive and sophisticated clientele, lovers of high culinary standards

But The Blue Lobster is not just about Lobster and international cuisine, we need to take note that we are in the Caribbean, and even better, in Aruba. That is why The Blue Lobster is proud of be serving for lunch, Caribbean tapas, such as lobster Hawaiian, coconut shrimps, mild crispy chicken wings, grouper fillet, (34 tapas to choose from), as well as our authentic cuminda criollo, (creole food.)

Or if so desired, delicious Black Angus beef, regular sea food, fresh catch of the day or any lobster dishes are available at any time of the day ,every day (except on Sundays). The Blue lobster has anything to please the most exquisite taste.

This small yet exclusive and

cozy restaurant has been awarded the "Certificate Of Excellence" by Trip Advisor, recognition which was achieved in only 8 months of operations.

If you have not yet visited this extraordinary restaurant, the time is now. The next High Season is at the door steps and space is limited to only 65 persons per seating.

You can enjoy your food at any of the two ambiances offered by The Blue lobster, it can be at the semi-open terrace or in the cozy and romantic air-conditioned salon, and all depends of your taste.

One thing is for sure, reservations are necessary, in this way you can be guaranteed a table; walk-ins are accepted, but it is not the rule of the game.

On the part of Management and from the bottom of our hearts, a big thanks (masha danki) to all of those which in one way or



The Blue Lobster is committed to pursue high quality standards and to make it as soon as possible into the top list of the best restaurants on the island.

another made it possible for the Blue Lobster to reach its first year of service!

- **Mr. German Castano and Mr. Sandro Herold, restaurant owners.** □









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## Artist, Designer Elizabeth van Brede exhibits work at Caribbean Queen

**Palm Beach** – The Caribbean Queen store at the Palm Beach Plaza Mall is proud to introduce its tenth Caribbean Queen, artist and designer Elizabeth van Brede, a local artisan who lives and creates here. Elizabeth has been living in Aruba since 2003 and continuously expresses her ingenuity in a variety of ways. As Caribbean Queen for the month of October, Elizabeth who was born in the



Netherlands is a truly versatile artist with a formal art education from the Institute of Image and Sound in Hilversum, the Art Academy in Curacao, and the National College of Art, in Alesbury, U.K.

Besides being a certificated window dresser, decorator, clay sculpturer, and portrait painter, she is mainly an

artistic bead-maker. In her studio which doubles up as a gallery at Bringamosa, on the border of Arikok National Park, Aruba's nature reserve, she conducts classes for students interested in ceramics and specializes in the Raku firing technique of Japanese pottery.

For her collection on display at the Caribbean Queen



store during the month of October Elizabeth crafted a line of unique and feminine jewelry pieces, necklaces and earrings, of handmade porcelain clay beads, high fired in a pottery kiln and hand decorated with original designs. As necklaces, earrings, and bracelets, all pieces are unique and different; some beads are even finished in real gold or platinum luster for an extra chic effect. The jewelry will be on show, on original display pieces, clay torsos Elizabeth sculpted, glazed and fired herself. With a good range of her creation on display, Elizabeth's BOUNDLESS ART approach to life is well illustrated.

All pieces are made in Aruba and have a distinct artisan feel. No pieces are alike, so visit the Caribbean Queen at the Palm Beach Plaza Mall and find something you love, for yourself, or a loved one. □





# SPORTS

## Aruba TODAY



### Giant Steps



New York Giants running back Ahmad Bradshaw (44) celebrates after scoring a touchdown during the first half of an NFL football game against the Cleveland Browns, Sunday, Oct. 7, 2012, in East Rutherford, N.J. The Giants won the game 41-27.

(AP Photo/Julio Cortez)

**BARRY WILNER**

The Associated Press  
EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP)

-- Ahmad Bradshaw got furious at himself, and took it out on the Cleveland Browns.

Bradshaw fumbled on the first play from scrimmage, setting up a Cleveland touchdown. After that, he was unstoppable, surpassing his yardage on the ground for the season with a career-best 200 yards in a 41-27 victory Sunday.

"I was angry at myself for the fumble and I just used it," Bradshaw said. "I was disappointed with the fumble, but you put it out of your mind. I knew I was cool. We knew the running game was there, we were confident."

The passing game was there, too. Victor Cruz made a career-best three touchdown catches. Eli Manning hit Cruz for scores of 3, 7 and 28 yards, prompting Cruz's trademark salsa in the end zone after each touchdown.

Continued on Page 18



# Bronco Busting

New England Patriots running back Shane Vereen (34) celebrates his touchdown against the Denver Broncos in the second quarter of an NFL football game, Sunday, Oct. 7, 2012, in Foxborough, Mass. The Patriots beat the Broncos 31-21.

(AP Photo/Elise Amendola)

## Brady tops Manning, Patriots beat Broncos 31-21

**FOXBOROUGH, Mass.**

(AP)—Tom Brady won his latest showdown with Peyton Manning with the help of a career-high 151 yards rushing from Stevan Ridley and the New England Patriots beat the Denver Broncos 31-21 on Sunday.

In the 13th meeting between the star quarterbacks, and first since Manning left the Indianapolis Colts, Brady directed four scoring marches of at least 80 yards and the Patriots rushed for 252 yards.

Brady improved to 9-4 against Manning. He completed 23 of 31 passes for 223 yards and one touchdown and ran for another. Manning was 31 of 44 for 345 yards and three touch-

downs but lost a fumble on a third-quarter sack. The fumble led to Ridley's 8-yard run that put the Patriots (3-2) ahead 31-7 with about five minutes left in the third quarter.

Manning then threw touchdown passes of 2 yards to Eric Decker and 5 yards to Brandon Stokley but Denver (2-3) lost a fumble with 3:42 remaining.

**In other NFL Games:**

**COLTS 30, PACKERS 27**

**INDIANAPOLIS (AP)** —Andrew Luck capped a second-half comeback by throwing a 4-yard touchdown pass to Reggie Wayne with 35 seconds to go that gave Indianapo-

lis a stunning 30-27 victory over Green Bay on Sunday in the Colts' first game with-

out coach Chuck Pagano.

Continued on Page 18



Indianapolis Colts quarterback Andrew Luck (12) is sacked by Green Bay Packers' Mike Neal during the first half of an NFL football game in Indianapolis, Sunday, Oct. 7, 2012. Indianapolis beat Green Bay 30-27.

(AP Photo/Michael Conroy)



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**NFL: Continued from Page 17**

Green Bay (2-3) had a chance to force overtime, but Mason Crosby missed a 51-yard field goal with 3 seconds to go. Luck then took a knee and time ran out and the team celebrated. Missing was Pagano, who is in a hospital undergoing treatment for leukemia that was recently diagnosed.

Luck came through with just what Pagano wanted — getting the Colts (2-2) to .500. And they did it despite trailing 21-3 at halftime.

After Adam Vinatieri gave Indy its first lead at 22-21 with a 28-yard field goal, Aaron Rodgers threw an 8-yard TD pass to James Jones to make it 27-22 with 4:30 left before the Colts rallied.

**STEELERS 16, EAGLES 14**

**PITTSBURGH (AP)** — Shaun Suisham hit a 34-yard field goal as time expired. The Eagles (3-2) took the lead on a 2-yard touchdown pass from Michael Vick to Brent Celek with 6:33 remaining, but the Steelers responded by driv-

ing 64 yards, including a pair of key third-down conversions by quarterback Ben Roethlisberger, to set up the winning kick. Pittsburgh running back Rashard Mendenhall ran for 81 yards and a touchdown in his first game of the season as the Steelers (2-2) avoided their first two-game losing streak in three years. Vick completed 20 of 30 passes for 175 yards and two scores but fumbled twice for the Eagles, whcoudn't keep their string of narrow early-season victories going. □



**Philadelphia Eagles wide receiver Jeremy Maclin (18) dives for the end zone past Pittsburgh Steelers cornerback Keenan Lewis (23) in Pittsburgh, Sunday, Oct. 7, 2012. The Steelers beat the Eagles 16-14.**

(AP Photo/Gene J. Puskar)

**Giants down Browns, 41-27**

**Continued from Page 17**

"We showed how resilient we are," said Cruz, who entered the game leading the NFL with 32 receptions and added five for 50 yards. "We started off rough, getting behind the 8-ball a bit, but we were able to keep our wits about us. We understand we'll be able to make some plays offensively."

Bradshaw added a 4-yard run as he darted inside and outside and frequently broke feeble tackle attempts. Bradshaw's yardage on 30 carries easily beat the 132 he had heading into the game.

The Giants are 9-0 in games he has rushed for 100 yards or more.

New York (3-2) also forced three turnovers, including Chase Blackburn's interception in the end zone midway in the fourth quar-

ter to clinch it. That led to rookie David Wilson's first NFL touchdown, a 40-yard scamper, which Wilson celebrated with a flip in the end zone.

The Giants rushed for 243 yards.

"It was across the board," Bradshaw said of the rushing effort. "Inside, outside, left or right, the line was doing everything right."

The Browns weren't. They are 0-5 for the first time since their return season to the NFL in 1999 and have lost 11 straight dating back to last season, matching the franchise record. Their inexperience as the league's youngest team could not be offset by the skills of third overall draft pick Trent Richardson, who ran for a touchdown for the fourth straight game.

And their defense couldn't do anything with Cruz and Bradshaw. □

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## Djokovic, Azarenka steal show at China Open finals



Serbia's Novak Djokovic holds the trophy after he won the men's singles final match against Jo-Wilfried Tsonga of France in the China Open tennis tournament in Beijing Sunday, Oct. 7, 2012. (AP Photo/Andy Wong)

**BEIJING (AP)** — Top-seeded Novak Djokovic extended his perfect record at the China Open when he defeated third-seeded Jo-Wilfried Tsonga of France 7-6 (4), 6-2 in the final on Sunday.

In the women's event, top-seeded Victoria Azarenka won her fifth title of the year by dominating second-seeded Maria Sharapova 6-3, 6-1. It was the third time

this year that Azarenka has beaten Sharapova in the final after victories at the Australian Open and Indian Wells.

Djokovic has won the tournament on all three occasions he has entered, beating Marin Cilic in the 2009 final and David Ferrer in 2010. He has a 14-0 record at the tournament.

The Serb has won 65 matches this season, the most wins

by any player on the ATP tour. Djokovic has also won four titles this year, including defending his Australian Open title.

During the award ceremony Djokovic celebrated with the ball boys and girls by dancing to "Gangnam Style," the popular single by Korean rapper Psy. "The song is quite catchy so I might do it again," Djokovic said. □

## Kahne leads Chase drivers in Talladega

JENNA FRYER  
AP Auto Racing Writer

**TALLADEGA, Alabama (AP)** — Kasey Kahne took pole position on Saturday for the NASCAR race at Talladega Speedway — a potentially vital event in the Chase for the Sprint Cup.

The fourth race in the Chase could be the one that shuffles the 12-driver championship field. The use of restrictor plates bunches the field, and the unpredictability of drafting and relying on partners usually creates a chaotic race that can end a drivers' title hopes.

So when qualifying ended Saturday, and Kahne sat on the pole for the first time at a plate race, drivers began discussing in earnest how they will attack the event. "We just really need to race and race hard," he said. "We're a long ways back right now, and if we can't make up points at a track like this, we probably aren't going to make them up."

Kahne qualified ahead of Ryan Newman, putting a pair of Chevrolets on the front row for Sunday's race. □

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# Grace wraps 2-shot win at Dunhill Links

**BERNIE McGUIRE**  
Associated Press

**ST. ANDREWS, Scotland (AP)** — Branden Grace won his fourth European Tour victory of the season Sunday by shooting a 2-under 70 to protect his lead and win the Alfred Dunhill Links Championship by two shots.



**Germany's Martin Kaymer in action at the Alfred Dunhill Links Championship at St Andrews Golf Course, in Fife, Scotland, Saturday Oct. 6, 2012. Branden Grace won the Alfred Dunhill Links Championship by two shots. (AP Photo / Lynne Cameron)**

The South African led from the first round and finished with a 22-under total of 266 to hold off Thorbjorn Olesen of Denmark, who finished second after a 68. Alexander Noren of Sweden (69) was another two shots back in third.

"It's just awesome to win an event at St. Andrews as I have really dreamt of this moment all my life," said Grace, who shot a spectacular first round 60 at Klingsbarns.

It was Grace's fifth victory of the year overall after also winning a Sunshine Tour event at Fancourt in South Africa.

Another South African, George Coetzee, equaled the Old Course record that had been set on Thursday with a 10-under 62 for a share of fifth place.

The 24-year-old Grace is the youngest winner of the tournament and his \$800,000 first prize moves him to third in the Race to Dubai money list.

Grace arrived in Scotland ranked 49th but will now make the top 40 when the rankings are adjusted Monday.

Olesen kept the pressure on Grace throughout the day, reaching the turn in 33 — three shots better than Grace — to reduce the lead to just one stroke.

Grace dropped another shot at the par three 11th before regaining control with three straight birdies from Nos. 12-14, including a 10-foot putt at the 13th.

Grace had a bogey five at the 17th Road Hole but kept his nerve to become the first player in the 40-year history of the European Tour to win his first four events in the same season. □

# Armstrong competes in Maryland triathlon

**ELLCOTT CITY, Maryland (AP)** — Lance Armstrong competed in a triathlon Sunday after organizers dropped USA Triathlon sanctioning so he could take part in a race that raises money for cancer.

Armstrong is banned from events that follow World Anti-Doping Agency rules after he chose not to fight USADA charges of doping. Armstrong finished the 70-mile swim, bike and run in 4 hours, 16 minutes at the Revolution3 Half-Full Triathlon, racing in a wave of

about 50 fellow cancer survivors.

"This was a race that was built and designed to raise money for cancer. So it was an easy decision," said Brock Yetso, president of the Ulman Cancer Fund for Young Adults. "We had two individuals who decided they did not want to race based on our decision and 300 who said they wanted to. So I think numbers speak for themselves."

Livestrong CEO Doug Ulman founded the Ulman Cancer Foundation. □

# Ronaldo, Messi score 2 as Madrid draws 2-2 at Barca

**JOSEPH WILSON**  
The Associated Press

**BARCELONA, Spain (AP)** — Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo dueled each other to an entertaining stalemate on Sunday, with both superstars scoring twice as Barcelona drew 2-2 with Real Madrid to keep an eight-point lead over its archrival intact.

The result ended Barcelona's perfect start to the league campaign as it dropped points for the first time in seven games,

the points.

It was, perhaps, a fitting end to the latest head-to-head duel between arguably the two best players in the world, who for the last two seasons have engaged in a two-way scoring race unlike anything the Spanish league has seen before. Messi and Ronaldo are the leading candidates for the world player of the year award, and both showed they more than deserved it with standout performances on Sunday night.

festations of the surge of separatist sentiment in the northwestern region of Spain.

But politics aside, the home fans quickly returned their attention to Barcelona's thinned backline, which was without both center backs Carles Puyol (elbow) and Gerard Pique (foot). To compensate, coach Tito Vilanova, in a minor surprise, left new signing Alex Song on the bench, and aligned Adriano alongside Javier Mascherano in the



**FC Barcelona's Adriano Correia from Brazil, right, duels for the ball against Real Madrid's Cristiano Ronaldo from Portugal during a Spanish La Liga soccer match at the Camp Nou stadium in Barcelona, Spain, Sunday, Oct. 7, 2012. Barcelona drew 2-2 with Real Madrid to keep an eight-point lead over its archrival intact.**

(AP Photo/Manu Fernandez)

but provided yet another memorable chapter in the rivalry between Messi and Ronaldo, the two biggest names in the sport.

Ronaldo put Madrid ahead at Camp Nou stadium in the 23rd from a pass by Karim Benzema to extend his scoring streak in "clasico" matches to six.

Then it was Messi's turn, as he took advantage of a defensive slip to level for Barcelona in the 31st, before adding a second goal in the 61st with a perfect free kick from almost 25 yards out.

But as Barcelona looked to seal the result, Mesut Oezil unlocked Barcelona's makeshift defensive line to set up Ronaldo to respond five minutes later and split

Ronaldo added to his pair of hat tricks from the previous week, while Messi recorded his 17th career goal against Madrid, leaving him one short of equaling Madrid legend Alfredo Di Stefano's record.

The two players lead the Spanish league with eight goals apiece through seven rounds.

Atletico Madrid can move even on points with Barcelona if it beats third-place Malaga later.

Camp Nou was bedecked with independence flags and the game started with the 90,000-plus fans holding up colored cards to form a mosaic of the red-and-yellow Catalan flag before shouting "Independence" in unison in the latest mani-

center of his defense.

With Xavi Hernandez and Cesc Fabregas in midfield, Barcelona quickly made their intentions known as the pair wove together combinations with Messi up front.

But Ronaldo made sure Madrid opened the scoring when he took Benzema's pass and used one sharp touch to drive the ball between the near post and goalkeeper Victor Valdes.

Ronaldo's goal seemed to stun Barcelona, and Madrid had two golden chances to double its advantage two minutes later when Benzema scuffed a close-range shot, sending it off the bar, and Angel Di Maria punched the rebound wide. □



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## NBA BRIEFS

### Boston Celtics top EA Milano in preseason

**MILAN (AP)** -- Rajon Rondo scored all 17 of his points in the first quarter and added six assists to lead the Boston Celtics to a 105-75 win over Emporio Armani Milano on Sunday, two days after the NBA team opened its pre-season European tour with a loss in Turkey. Jeff Green also had 17 points off the bench for Boston. Green missed all of last season after a physical exam revealed an aortic aneurysm. He underwent surgery and became a free agent before re-signing with the Celtics in August. On Friday in Istanbul, Fenerbahce Ulker beat the Celtics 97-91. The Celtics return to Boston on Monday and resume practice Thursday before playing their first U.S. pre-season game against the New York Knicks in Hartford, Conn., next weekend. □

### Kobe sits out two practices on foot woes

**EL SEGUNDO, Calif. (AP)** -- Kobe Bryant sat out both of the Los Angeles Lakers' practices on Friday with soreness in his right foot. Bryant practiced on the Lakers' first four days of training camp, but skipped the morning session Friday. The Lakers expected him to practice in the evening session, but the superstar was held out after further evaluation. The fifth-leading scorer in NBA history is beginning his 17th season with the Lakers. He is a five-time NBA champion and a 14-time All-Star. □

## Nail biter:

# Tigers squeak past A's for 2-0 lead

### NOAH TRISTER

#### The Associated Press

**DETROIT (AP)** -- A dropped fly, two wild pitches and a little smooch for the baseball by a relieved reliever. Then Don Kelly brought it all to an end with a simple fly ball.

Kelly scored the tying run on a wild pitch in the eighth inning, then hit a bases-loaded sacrifice fly in the bottom of the ninth that lifted the Detroit Tigers over the Oakland Athletics 5-4 Sunday for a 2-0 lead in their AL playoff series.

"Was looking for a fastball and I got it," Kelly said. "It's a great feeling. To be able to go out there in that situation and do that."

Detroit will go for a sweep of the division series matchup in Game 3 on Tuesday at Oakland.

"We just need to win a game," Oakland manager Bob Melvin said. "If you start thinking about three games ahead, you lose your focus on Tuesday's game."

Triple Crown winner Miguel Cabrera doubled twice for the Tigers, hit a fly ball that resulted in a two-run error and later singled in the ninth.

The Tigers overcame three A's leads and seasawed to victory. It was 1-all before a wild final three innings that included a big Oakland misplay, two game-tying wild pitches and several momentum changes.

It was the sixth straight post-season loss for the A's, all to Detroit. The Tigers swept Oakland in the 2006 AL championship series, win-

ning the series on Magglio Ordonez's homer in Game 4 - which was Detroit's last sudden-death postseason win before Sunday.

Omar Infante and Cabrera hit back-to-back singles off Grant Balfour with one out in the ninth. With men on first and third, Prince Fielder

but center fielder Coco Crisp dropped Cabrera's two-out flyball in the bottom half, allowing two runs to score.

Oakland tied it in the eighth on a wild pitch by Joaquin Benoit, and Josh Reddick followed with a solo homer to give the A's

to first after he fielded the comebacker.

On a drizzly day at Comerica Park, both teams were sloppy with the game on the line.

With runners on first and second and two out in the seventh, Cabrera lifted a fly to center. Crisp, charging hard, tried to make a basket catch but bobbled the ball. He nearly recovered to make a falling grab, but the ball popped out of his glove and the Tigers took a 3-2 lead.

Cespedes led off the eighth with a single and stole second and third. With one out and the infield in, Benoit threw a wild pitch to allow the tying run. The worst was still to come for the Detroit reliever, who allowed Reddick's homer to right that put Oakland ahead 4-3.

Reddick had struck out in all six at-bats in the series before that.

Oakland again gave up the lead immediately. The A's have taken the lead four times in this series, but on each occasion they failed to hold it through the bottom half of the inning.

Doug Fister allowed two runs and six hits in seven innings for Detroit, striking out eight. Rookie Tommy Milone was impressive for the A's, allowing a run and five hits in six innings. He struck out six.

Fister gave the A's trouble early with his slow, sweeping breaking ball, but Oakland hit four singles in the third to score a run. Crisp's slow roller to third turned into an infield hit when Cabrera threw wide to first. □



**Detroit Tigers' Omar Infante high fives a teammate after scoring the game winning run on a sacrifice fly by teammate Don Kelly during the ninth inning of Game 2 of the American League division baseball series against the Oakland Athletics, Sunday, Oct. 7, 2012, in Detroit.**

(AP Photo/Paul Sancya)

was intentionally walked, bringing up Kelly, who had stayed in the game as the designated hitter after pinch-running the previous inning.

Kelly's fly to right was plenty deep enough to score Infante without a play at the plate.

It was tied at 4 after both teams made their share of mistakes in the seventh and eighth. Cliff Pennington gave the A's the lead with an RBI single in the seventh,

a 4-3 lead. Then it was Ryan Cook's turn to throw a tying wild pitch, allowing Kelly to score as a pinch runner.

Pennington nearly came through again for Oakland in the ninth, but his deep drive down the left-field line was just foul. With runners on first and third and two out, Al Albuquerque got Yoenis Cespedes on grounder to the mound - and it looked like the right-hander planted a little kiss on the ball before throwing



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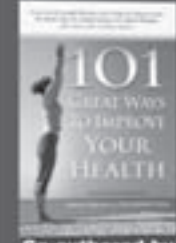

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## Another use for home HIV test: screening partners

**DONALD G. McNEIL JR.**  
© 2012 New York Times

The first rapid home testing kit for HIV has just gone on sale for \$40, marketed as a way for people to find out privately if they have the virus that causes AIDS.

But some experts and advocates say that another use, unadvertised, for the OraQuick test – to screen potential sexual partners – may become equally popular and even help slow an epidemic stuck at 50,000 new infections each year in the United States.

There are reasons to think that screening might make a difference. Studies have found that a significant minority of people who are HIV-positive either lie about their status or keep it secret, infecting unsuspecting partners.

And though the manufacturer, OraSure Technologies, is not promoting the use of the test for screening, 70 percent of the 4,000 men and women in the company's clinical trials said they would either definitely or very likely use it

that way. Some even suggested that the company sell boxes of two so couples could be tested together. The only study of the practice – a small one involving



**Oraquick, a new at-home HIV testing kit, at a CVS in Fort Lee, N.J., Oct. 4, 2012. An unadvertised use for the test, screening potential sexual partners, may become popular and even help slow the AIDS epidemic, experts said.**

(Angel Franco/The New York Times)

27 gay men who frequently had sex with virtual strangers without using condoms – found that it probably prevented some infections.

The study was published online in August by the journal AIDS and Behavior.

"If it becomes a community norm, people may start testing their partners," said

Alex Carballo-Dieiguez, the lead author of the study, who is a psychology professor at Columbia University and the associate director

of the HIV Center for Clinical and Behavioral Studies at the New York State Psychiatric Institute. "On sex sites now, men advertise themselves as 'drug-and-disease-free.' They could start saying 'D-and-D-free, and willing to prove it.'"

Other AIDS experts had doubts. Some thought \$40 was too much for people who need to screen multiple partners. Others said that men and women who are not comfortable demanding that their partners wear condoms would be unable to insist on a test.

And some, including Anthony S. Fauci, the country's best-known AIDS doctor, worried that a negative test could lead partners to forgo condoms, removing the barrier to both HIV and other diseases like gonorrhea. The OraQuick test is imperfect. It is nearly 100 percent accurate when it indicates that someone is not infected and, in fact, is not. But it is only about 93 percent accurate when it says that someone is not infected and the person ac-

tually does have the virus, though the body is not yet producing the antibodies that the test detects.

The men in Carballo-Dieiguez's study were given 16 tests each and followed for three months. None of them had unprotected sex with anyone who tested positive.

Of the 101 partners they tested, 10 were positive. In six cases, it was how the partner first learned he was infected. (Ten percent is a very high success rate for HIV testing, experts said.)

Twenty-three other partners refused testing. Two, after being asked, admitted knowing they were infected. Seven men got angry, and one stomped on the kit. One man walked out saying he wanted to be alone and broke off contact.

Asking usually did not ruin the moment's intimacy, the men said. Some pairs did the tests together, swabbing each other's gums. Some passed the 20-minute wait talking, playing video games or in foreplay. One 47-year-old man found the wait helpful, telling the researchers, "It gives you that extra 20 minutes to decide, 'OK, if this comes back negative, am I really ready to bareback?'" – slang for having sex without a condom.

Carballo-Dieiguez said people's decision about whether to screen would depend on various factors, including the test's price and how comfortable they were with its imperfect accuracy.

OraSure appears ambivalent about partner screening. AIDS experts said the company might fear lawsuits by people infected by partners who got false negatives – a possibility it declined to comment on. □

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## The classroom evolves as technology incubator

NICK WINGFIELD

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**SEATTLE** – Leandre Nsabi, a senior at Rainier Beach High School here, received some bluntly practical advice from an instructor recently. "My teacher said there's a lot of money to be made in computer science," Leandre said. "It could be really helpful in the future."

That teacher, Steven Edouard, knows a few things about the subject. When he is not volunteering as a computer science instructor four days a week, Edouard works at Microsoft. He is one of 110 engineers from high-tech companies who are part of a Microsoft program aimed at getting high school students hooked on computer science, so they go on to pursue careers in the field.

In doing so, Microsoft is taking an unusual approach to tackling a shortage of computer science graduates – one of the most serious issues facing the technology industry, and a broader challenge for the nation's economy.

There are likely to be 150,000 computing jobs opening up each year through 2020, according to an analysis of federal forecasts by the Association for Computing Machinery, a professional society for computing researchers. But despite the hoopla around startup celebrities like Mark Zuckerberg of Facebook, fewer than 14,000 U.S. students received undergraduate degrees in computer science last year, the Computing Research Association estimates. And the wider job market remains weak.

"People can't get jobs, and we have jobs that can't be filled," Brad Smith, Microsoft's general counsel who oversees its philanthropic efforts, said in a recent inter-

view. Big technology companies have complained for years about a dearth of technical talent, a problem they have tried to solve by lobbying for looser immigration rules to accommodate more foreign engineers and sponsoring tech competitions to encourage student interest in the industry.



**Leandre Nsabi shows a game he created in a class on making software for mobile phones that is taught by a Microsoft engineer at Rainier Beach High School in Seattle. Microsoft is tackling a shortage of computer science graduates by encouraging engineers to teach high school computer science classes. (Stuart Isett/The New York Times)**

Google, for one, holds a programming summer camp for incoming ninth-graders and underwrites an effort called CS4HS, in which high school teachers sharpen their computer science skills in workshops at local universities.

But Microsoft is sending its employees to the front lines, encouraging them to commit to teaching a high school computer science class for a full school year. Its engineers, who earn a small stipend for their classroom time, are in at least two hourlong classes a week and sometimes as many as five. Schools arrange the classes for first thing in the day to avoid interfering with the schedules of the engineers, who often do not arrive at Microsoft until the late morning.

The program started as a

grass-roots effort by Kevin Wang, a Microsoft engineer with a master's degree in education from Harvard. In 2009, he began volunteering as a computer science teacher at a Seattle public high school on his way to work. After executives at Microsoft caught wind of what he was doing,

ing more people into the field is something all technology companies agree on," said Alyssa Caulley, a Google software engineer, who, along with a Microsoft volunteer, is teaching a computer science class at Woodside High School in Woodside, Calif.

While computer science can be an intimidating subject, Microsoft has sought to connect it to the technologies most students use in their everyday lives. At Rainier Beach High recently, Peli de Halleux, a Microsoft software engineer, taught a class on making software for mobile phones.

The students buried their faces in the phones, supplied by Microsoft. They were asked to create programs that performed sim-

ple functions, like playing a random song when the phones were shaken.

Leandre, who took de Halleux's mobile programming class last year and is in Edouard's Advanced Placement computer science class this year, proudly showed off a simple game he had created, Sun Collector, in which players tilt the phone to dodge black balls and hit big yellow ones.

"I never really understood what was behind these games," he said. "Once you start getting it, it's pretty easy to understand."

One of the most alarming trends for the technology industry has been students' declining interest in computer science over the last decade. □



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# Can stocks continue to rise as earnings fall?

**Bernard Condon**  
AP Business Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** -- One type of investor buys stocks when everyone is convinced that corporate earnings will fall. He buys because he thinks they're wrong and earnings will rise instead. Call him the contrarian.

Another type of investor buys when everyone thinks that earnings will rise. He buys because he thinks they'll rise even more than expected. Call him the eternal optimist.

Now, the 3½-year-old bull market may have produced a third type of investor, an undiscovered breed with a curious strategy for success: He expects earnings to fall but buys anyway because he hopes it won't matter.

Call him the blind-faith investor. Or maybe just blind. "How do you explain where the stock market is?" Barclays Capital stock strategist Barry Knapp said Thursday, as the Standard & Poor's 500 inched higher yet again. "Stock prices are not warranted by the fundamentals."

The financial reporting season begins Tuesday, when Alcoa announces third-quarter results. Brace yourself: For three months, stock prices have risen while, in seeming contradiction, Wall Street analysts

That would break an 11-quarter streak of rising earnings that began just after the Great Recession ended three and a half years ago. Earlier this year, analysts had expected earnings for the quarter to

cutting estimates for those quarters, too. They've lowered forecasts for earnings growth for each of the next two quarters by a third since the summer, and as much as half since the beginning of the year.

The bad news started in July, when UPS, the world's largest package delivery company, said the global economy was slowing and lowered its 2012 profit forecast as a result.

Then FedEx said that shipping volume had fallen to recession levels, and that investors should expect lower earnings. Norfolk Southern, the giant railroad company, cut its forecast, too.

The flurry of so-called negative pre-announcements ranged across industries — from steel maker Nucor Corp. and Applied Materials Inc., which sells semiconductor-chip-making machines, to Starbucks and Tiffany & Co.

On Tuesday, Fifth & Pacific, the company behind Juicy Couture products, said sales were weakening and it was likely to report lower earnings than expected,

too. Investors pushed its stock down 11 percent in just a day.

Tally it up and 78 percent of companies issuing pre-announcements have suggested they will disappoint, according to FactSet, a financial data provider. That is the worst reading since FactSet began keeping records six years ago.

The problem is companies are running out of ways to increase earnings. You can see that in the results for the previous quarter, from April through June.

Earnings for companies in the S&P 500 barely rose from a year earlier, just 0.8 percent.

U.S. economic growth has slowed to an annual rate of 1.3 percent, practically stall speed. Meanwhile, the old formula that companies have used to compensate — pulling more profit out of each sale by trying to run leaner — suddenly isn't working.

You can only cut expenses and squeeze workers so much, and many companies seem to have reached the limit. □



Specialist Wingszi Chiang, center, and trader Fred DeMarco work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange Friday, Oct. 5, 2012. (AP Photo/Richard Drew)

have slashed estimates for earnings. Earnings for July through September are expected to drop 1.3 percent compared with a year earlier for S&P 500 companies, according to S&P Capital IQ, a research firm.

rise 7 percent. To be fair to the bulls, it's generally future quarters that investors should be most concerned about, not the one that just passed. That's a time-honored rule of investing. But analysts have been

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# What a difference a percentage point can make

**ANNA BERNASEK  
© 2012 New York Times**

Investors can't count on very much these days. The economy remains troubled, the stock market is volatile and the bond market seems fraught with risk. Overseas options aren't much better. With Europe in a nasty recession and problems growing in China and the rest of Asia, emerging markets are as vulnerable as ever.

But one thing is quite predictable: the fees that investors pay in their individual mutual funds.

"Finding low-cost funds becomes more important than ever," said Russel Kinnel, director of fund research at Morningstar. "If you're going down in fees, you're boosting your return."

When it comes to mutual funds, fees have a huge

range and vary across asset classes. Average annual fees are 1.44 percent on equity funds, 1.02 percent on bond funds and 0.24 percent on money market funds, according to the calculations of the Investment Company Institute, the mutual fund trade group. Fees for emerging-market funds or alternative-investment funds can be more than 2 percent.

But fees also vary widely within asset classes. For instance, about one in 10 equity funds charge fees of 0.78 percent or lower, while another one in 10 charge 2.2 percent or higher. At the same time, investors who buy funds through a financial adviser may have to pay a separate load, or fee to compensate the adviser.

Clearly, though, fee-conscious investors have been

putting pressure on fund companies, and many of those costs have been coming down.

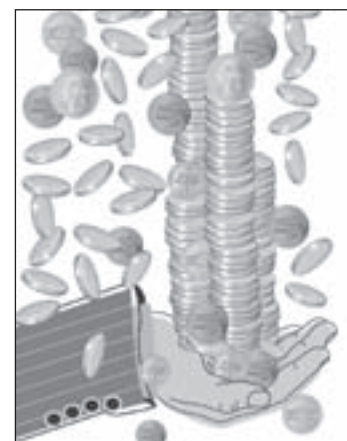
The turning point came in 2002, during the bear market after the collapse of the Internet bubble. Until then, many new investors had piled into mutual funds without much experience of bear markets.

"What happened in the early 2000s is that sensitivity to fees increased," said Brian Reed, the institute's chief economist. "We particularly saw it among 401(k) plan sponsors and financial advisers, which has contributed to the significant downward trend in fees since then."

Index funds tend to cost less than actively managed funds, which may require more – and more costly – labor. But there are also other reasons for

the cost differences. Index funds tend to be far larger and thus better able to take advantage of economies of scale. Last year, the average equity index fund had assets of \$1.6 billion under management, compared with \$374 million for actively managed equity funds, according to the institute's data.

Regardless of the differences, the costs of index funds and actively managed funds have fallen over time by roughly the same proportion. From 1997 to 2011, the average expense ratio of equity index funds fell 0.13 percentage points, or 13 basis points, while the average for actively managed equity funds dropped 11 basis points. At the same



**Fee-conscious investors have been putting pressure on fund companies to lower their annual costs — and have found some success.**

(Minh Uong/The New York Times)

time, the average for bond index funds fell 8 basis points, compared with 16 basis points for actively managed bond funds. □

## Citing fire risk:

# Honda recalls '02-'06 CR-V



Unsold 2006 Honda CRVs sits on the lot of a Honda dealership in the south Denver suburb of Littleton, Colo. Honda Motor Co. is recalling CR-V crossovers from the 2002 to 2006 model years because an electrical switch in the driver's side door could melt and cause a fire. Honda and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration announced the recall Saturday, Oct. 6, 2012.

(AP Photo/David Zalubowski)

**DEE-ANN DURBIN  
AP Auto Writer**

**DETROIT (AP)** — Honda Motor Co. is recalling CR-V crossovers from the 2002 to

2006 model years because an electrical switch in the driver's side door could melt and cause a fire.

Honda and the National

Highway Traffic Safety Administration announced the recall Saturday.

The problem involves around 268,000 vehicles. Honda said rain or other liquids could enter through a driver's open window and damage the master power switch on the door.

If that happens, the switch could overheat and melt, causing a fire.

NHTSA said owners should park CR-Vs from those model years outside until the recall is performed to avoid any property damage from a fire. A fire could start even when the ignition is off and the CR-V is parked. Honda agreed that concerned owners should park their CR-Vs away from structures that could burn. □

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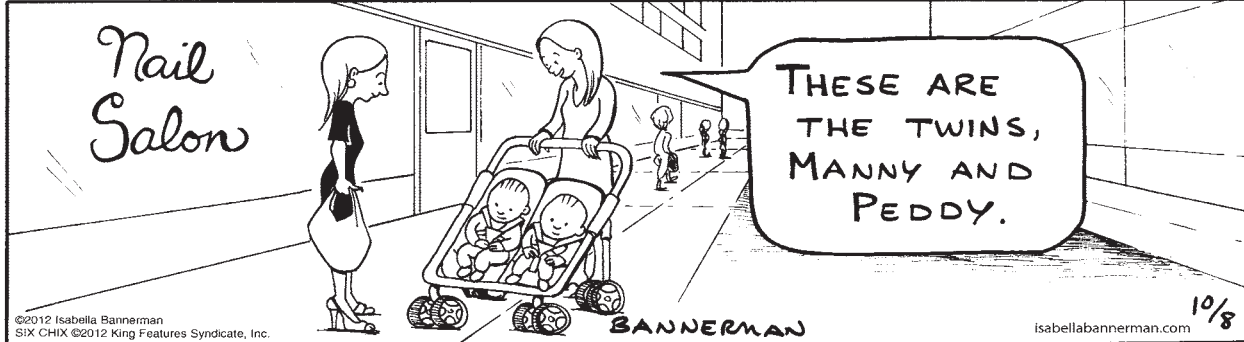




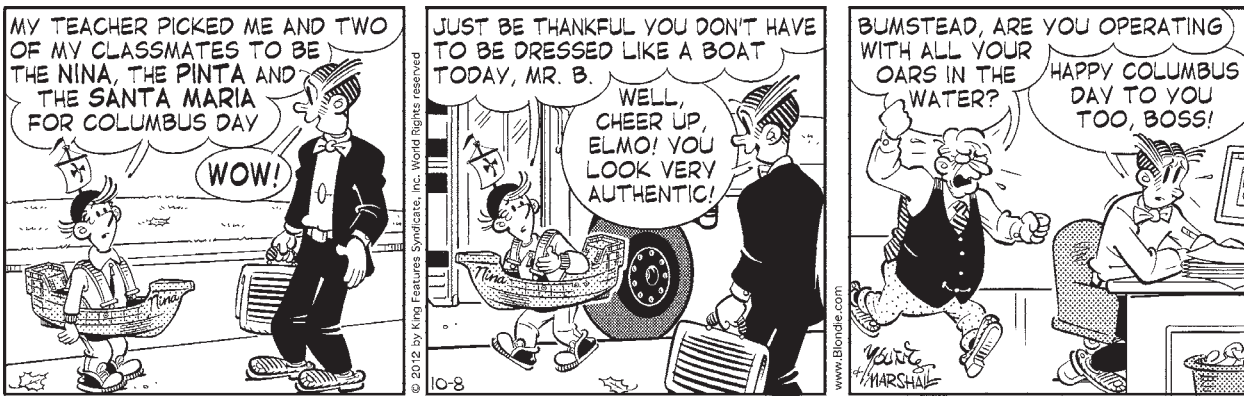
**Mutts**



**6 Chix**



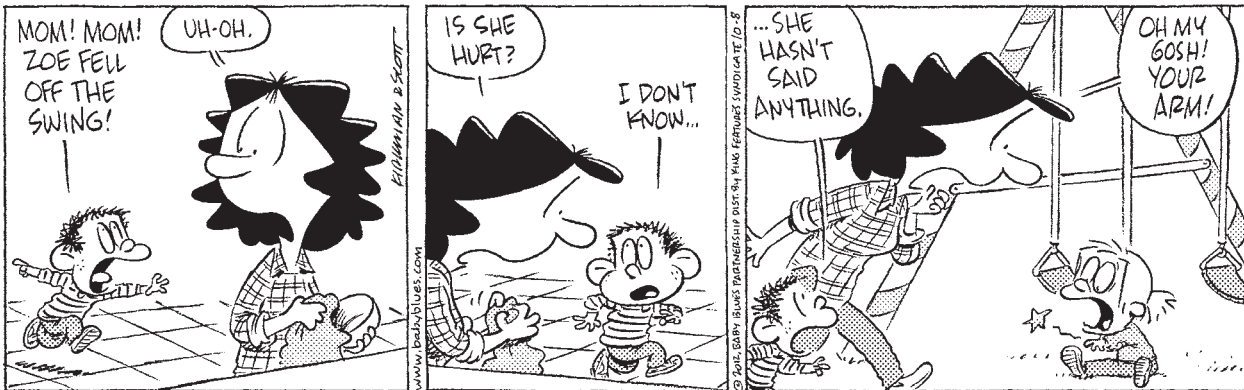
**Blondie**



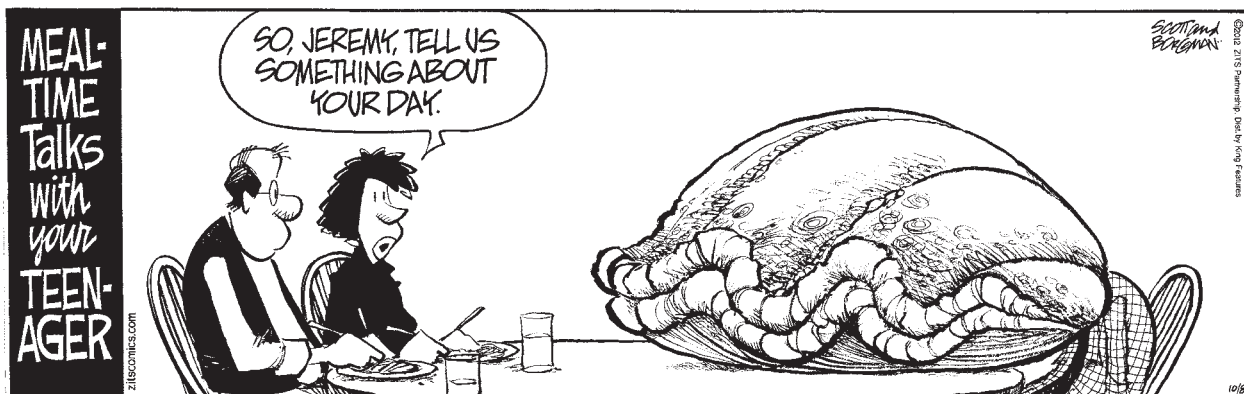
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**Baby Blues**



**Zits**



**Conceptis Sudoku**

|   |   |   |   |   |   |     |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|-----|
| 2 | 4 |   | 5 |   | 8 |     |
| 5 |   |   | 2 |   | 9 | 3   |
|   |   | 3 | 7 |   | 1 |     |
|   | 2 |   | 3 |   |   |     |
| 9 | 6 |   |   |   | 8 | 4   |
|   |   |   |   | 6 |   | 3   |
|   | 1 |   | 3 |   | 7 |     |
| 3 | 9 |   |   | 8 |   | 1   |
|   | 8 |   | 6 |   |   | 2 5 |

Difficulty Level ★

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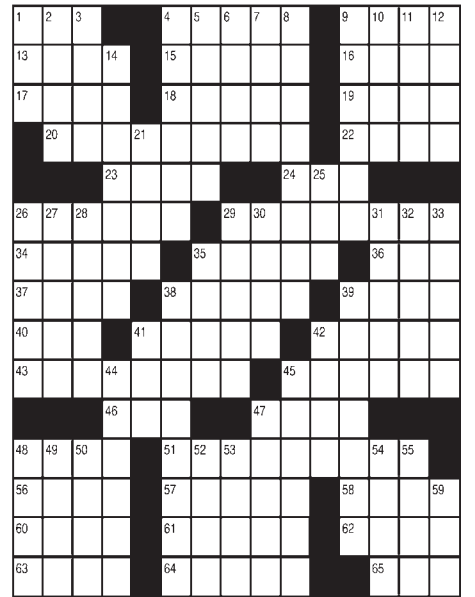
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Saturday's puzzle answer

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 7 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 9 | 8 | 6 |
| 6 | 3 | 9 | 2 | 7 | 8 | 1 | 4 | 5 |
| 8 | 4 | 5 | 9 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 7 |
| 5 | 7 | 1 | 8 | 9 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 2 | 8 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 7 | 6 | 1 | 9 |
| 4 | 9 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 8 | 4 | 7 | 5 | 1 |
| 3 | 1 | 4 | 7 | 5 | 9 | 8 | 6 | 2 |
| 7 | 5 | 8 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 9 | 3 |

**ACROSS**

- 1 Read the riot \_\_\_ to; sternly reprimand
- 4 Deep pit
- 9 Big coffee cups
- 13 "That \_\_\_ it!"; cry of disgust
- 15 Feel about blindly
- 16 Iran's continent
- 17 "Phooey!"
- 18 Wrestler Hulk
- 19 Letters on an invitation
- 20 Playwright
- 22 Uno, dos, \_\_\_\_
- 23 Tiny amount, in a recipe
- 24 Extremely cold
- 26 Monet or Picasso
- 29 Pet birds
- 34 Computer data destroyer
- 35 Might; strength
- 36 Took a chair
- 37 Dutch cheese
- 38 Absorbent cloth
- 39 Additionally
- 40 Scarlet or ruby
- 41 Nat King and Natalie
- 42 Iron alloy
- 43 Shook
- 45 Irritate; annoy
- 46 Take advantage of
- 47 Dishonest one
- 48 Quarrel
- 51 Loath; unwilling
- 56 Housetop
- 57 With it; savvy
- 58 Hairdo
- 60 Away without permission, for short
- 61 Whiplash sites
- 62 Accept
- 63 Sickly looking
- 64 Lovers' meeting
- 65 Rush



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews 10/8/12

**Saturday's Puzzle Solved**

|            |            |        |
|------------|------------|--------|
| NICK       | OLIVE      | SPAN   |
| ASHE       | TENET      | CLUE   |
| PLAN       | TANTAMOUNT |        |
| SEN        | PADS       | OUSTS  |
|            | DRAWS      | BAR    |
| SHEILA     | CENSUS     |        |
| HALLE      | AREAS      | NOR    |
| EVIL       | SPANK      | FRAU   |
| DOE        | SLEPT      | SEEKS  |
|            | CRATES     | PLEASE |
|            | SOW        | CHILD  |
| CHASM      | ROAD       | APR    |
| RECEPTIONS | ABLE       |        |
| ARMS       | ADAGE      | FLEA   |
| BEEES      | NOMAD      | TEAM   |

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**DOWN**

- 1 Use a plus sign
- 2 Drape puller
- 3 Rip
- 4 Shocked

- 5 Thin soup
- 6 Cartoon bear
- 7 Hot tubs
- 8 Guard
- 9 One who dies for his faith
- 10 Letters on an old map
- 11 \_\_\_ up; quit
- 12 Fools
- 14 Arena
- 21 Tumor
- 25 Automobile
- 26 Turn away, as the eyes
- 27 Equestrian
- 28 Swap
- 29 Intimidated; daunted
- 30 Fill's with holy wonder
- 31 Tiny bit of land in the sea
- 32 Portrait stand
- 33 Took illegally
- 35 North \_\_\_; Santa's home
- 38 Broad-minded
- 39 Draw; entice

- 41 Major TV network
- 42 Chair or bench
- 44 Deaden the sound of
- 45 Friendliest
- 47 Skulks; sneaks
- 48 Pitfall
- 49 Des Moines, \_\_\_
- 50 Bamboozle
- 52 Pitcher with a flaring spout
- 53 Frilly around the edges
- 54 Ark builder
- 55 Polynesian carved image
- 59 Stipend



# The art and science of guessing a Nobel Prize

**KARL RITTER**

**Associated Press STOCKHOLM (AP)** — Guessing who will win a Nobel Prize is a bit like forecasting the stock market: Experts don't seem to do it any better than laymen. So if you hear professors and pundits predicting the "God particle" will be the theme of the physics prize next week, or that an American writer — finally — is due for the literature award, check their track record.

"My top candidate has never won, and it's the fourth year I do it now," admitted Norwegian peace researcher Kristian Harpviken, one of the most prominent voices in the annual guessing game for the Nobel Peace Prize.

A week ahead of that announcement, the Irish online betting agency Paddy Power gave the lowest odds Friday to retired American scholar Gene Sharp, Afghan women's rights activist Sima Samar and Tunisian blogger Lina Ben Mhenni. All have been among Harpviken's top picks in recent years.

Harpviken, who heads the PRIO peace institute in Oslo, admits his speculation is just that — speculation — based on current events, previous prizes and personal preference.

"I think guessing is important in that it brings attention to what the Nobel Peace Prize should be about," he said. "I would be very hesitant to speculate on a certain candidate who is absolutely undeserving."

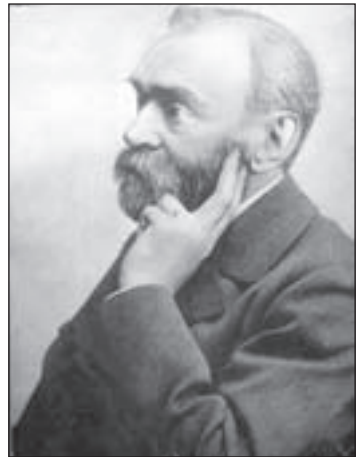
The secretive prize committees rarely drop any hints and Harpviken doesn't have any inside information. Virtually none of the Nobel guess-makers do — but that doesn't stop them from trying.

The peace and literature prizes generate the strongest buzz, and are typically less difficult to predict than the awards for chemistry, physics, medicine and economics.

The six award committees will announce one prize a day, starting with medicine on Monday and ending with the economics award

on Oct. 15. The Nobel Foundation this year lowered the prize money 20 percent to 8 million Swedish kronor (\$1.2 million), citing turmoil on financial markets.

It would have been easier to guess the winners if the Nobel committees had stuck to the will of the



**In this undated portrait, Swedish chemist and industrialist Alfred Nobel (1833-1896) is shown. Associated Press**

Swedish industrialist, who wanted the annual awards to reflect the greatest achievements "during the preceding year." Instead, the Nobel statutes were changed so that committees can reward discoveries made decades ago, to make sure they have stood the test of time.

"I think Alfred would have been OK with that," said Per Carlson, a former chairman of the physics prize committee.

Handing out a prize too soon increases the risk of jurors failing to identify the right scientists behind a discovery, Carlson said.

That happened in 1974, when the Nobel Prize in physics went to British radio astronomers Sir Martin Ryle and Antony Hewish. The latter was cited for the discovery of pulsars — rotating neutron stars — though

it later became clear that one of his graduate students deserved the credit.

The Nobel time lag could hurt the chances of the most talked-about scientific breakthrough this year: the identification of the Higgs boson, a subatomic particle also referred to as the "God particle."

Though British scientist Peter Higgs predicted the existence of the particle in the 1960s, it was only in July this year that scientists at an atom-smasher outside Geneva claimed to have identified it.

Whether Higgs was even nominated is unclear — the deadline was in February and nominations are not revealed for 50 years.

Secrecy is paramount to the Nobel committees. Literature jurors have been known to use code words when discussing Nobel candidates and using fake book covers when reading their work.

After suspected leaks ahead of recent announcements, the literature panel has taken additional measures this year. A press release declaring the winner will no longer be delivered by courier to the offices of major news organizations in Stockholm, including The Associated Press. And the panel's permanent secretary, Peter Englund, has stopped giving his customary interviews in the weeks leading up to the prize.

"We just think it's better this way," Englund told the AP in an email.

Betting on the literature prize is in full swing, with Ladbrokes offering 3/1 odds for Japanese writer Haruki Murakami and American singer-songwriter Bob Dylan — an outsider whose name appears in

the Nobel buzz every year though the committee has never given the prize to a musician — placing fourth at 10/1. The last American to win the Nobel Prize in literature was Toni Morrison, in 1993. In perhaps the most elaborate example of Nobel guesswork, the scientific division of news and financial information provider Thomson Reuters analyzes thousands of citations and papers in high-impact academic journals to identify possible winners of the science and economics awards. □

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| Oranjestad  | 582-4000 |
| Noord       | 587-0009 |
| Sta. Cruz   | 585-4710 |
| Savaneta    | 584-7000 |
| San Nicolas | 584-5000 |

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|           |          |
|-----------|----------|
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| Police    | 582-4000 |

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|                 |          |
|-----------------|----------|
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# Neeson's 'Taken 2' debut tops weekend box office

DAVID GERMAIN

AP Movie Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Critics don't like "Taken 2," but Liam Neeson's action sequel has proved twice the hit among fans as the original movie was.

"Taken 2" led the box office with \$50 million domestically over opening weekend, according to studio estimates Sunday. That's double the haul for Neeson's "Taken," which took in \$24.7 million in its U.S. debut in early 2009.

"Taken" went on to become a \$145 million smash for Neeson, the Academy Award-nominated star of "Schindler's List" who has become an unlikely action hero in his 50s.

In "Taken 2," Neeson returns as a retired CIA agent using his expert espionage and killing skills to take on a gang of thugs out for revenge against him and his family.

"He gives hope to aging men," said Paul Der-

garabedian, an analyst for box-office tracker Hollywood.com. "He's done the reverse of most actors, where you do the action stuff when you're younger

more butt." "Taken 2," which began rolling out overseas a weekend earlier, added \$55 million more in about 50 international markets to raise its



Actor Liam Neeson signing autographs at a special fan screening of his latest film, "Taken 2," at the AMC Empire Times Square, in New York. "Taken 2" led the box office with \$50 million domestically over opening weekend, according to studio estimates Sunday.

(AP Photo/Dave Allosca)

then do the more introspective work when you're older. He's sort of turned it around. When he's 80, he'll probably be kicking even

worldwide total to \$117 million.

The previous weekend's No. 1 movie at the U.S. box office, Adam Sandler's ani-

mated hit "Hotel Transylvania," dropped to second-place with \$26.3 million. The Sony release raised its domestic total to \$76 million, and it has taken in \$29.3 million overseas for a worldwide haul of \$105.3 million. Expanding into nationwide release after a limited debut a week earlier, Universal's music tale "Pitch Perfect" moved up to third-place with \$14.7 million. The movie stars Anna Kendrick as a college freshman spicing things up for her a cappella singing squad.

Sony's sci-fi thriller "Looper," starring Bruce Willis and Joseph Gordon-Levitt, fell from second-place to fourth with \$12.2 million, lifting its domestic haul to \$40.3 million. Tim Burton's animated monster tale "Frankenweenie" had a slow start, taking in \$11.5 million to round out the top-five.

The Disney release is an update of Burton's 1984 live-action short film, about a

boy who brings his dead dog back to life.

Released by 20th Century Fox, "Taken 2" gave a big boost to Hollywood revenues, which have lagged most weekends since late summer. Domestic business totaled \$138 million, up 45.5 percent from the same weekend last year, when "Real Steel" led with \$27.3 million.

"Most people go to the movies for a certain dose of escapism," said Chris Aronson, head of distribution for 20th Century Fox. "It doesn't have to be high art. It doesn't have to be serious and contemplative. They go to the movies to be entertained, and my gosh, that's what this movie does."

"Frankenweenie" had a modest debut compared to Burton's last animated feature, "Corpse Bride," which took in \$19.1 million in its first weekend of wide release in 2005. □

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# Big Bird perches at SNL

Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — In a week when Big Bird was in the news, it seemed fitting to find him perched at the parody news report on NBC's "Saturday Night Live."

But joining Seth Meyers at the "Weekend Update" anchor desk, the popular "Sesame Street" character declined to comment on presidential hopeful Mitt Romney's vow to cut federal funding for PBS. Explaining why, Big Bird said he didn't want to "ruffle any feathers." He told Meyers how he had learned of being mentioned on Wednesday's debate. He said he'd gotten "a million tweets." From real birds, that is. Since then, he said he was feeling very famous, standing tall above every other 8-foot talking bird.

In closing, Big Bird shared a joke befitting his childish sense of humor.

Question: Who like debates?

Answer: de-fishes. □



In a week when Big Bird was in the news, it seemed fitting to find him perched at the parody news report Saturday Oct. 6, 2012 on NBC's "Saturday Night Live."

(AP Photo/Matt Sayles)

# 'Duck Dynasty' luring audiences

NEIL GENZLINGER

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**WEST MONROE, La.** — The moments before a religious service begins are generally ones of quiet reflection for the congregants, but on a recent Sunday at White's Ferry Road Church of Christ here something incongruous was going on two-thirds of the way back in the spacious hall.

Parishioners were walking up to perhaps the scruffiest, most disheveled-looking man in the church as he sat in his pew, offering a greeting and making a request. They were asking him to autograph copies of his biography.

The man was Phil Robertson, who along with his heavily bearded sons is famous in this part of Louisiana and, increasingly, all over the country. The Robertson family's duck-call-making business, Duck Commander, has been an evolving media phenomenon, beginning years ago with videos aimed at hunters, then becoming the subject of a show on the Outdoor Channel and last March moving up to the much bigger stage of A&E.

That A&E series, "Duck Dynasty," begins its second season Wednesday night, now firmly established as one of the quirkiest, most enjoyable reality shows on television. The Robertson clan — Phil and his wife, Kay; their sons; the sons' wives; weird Uncle Si; even the grandchildren — all seem to have a natural gift for deadpan humor.

They are busting the image of what might collectively be called backwoods TV,



Willie Robertson and his wife, Korie, of the reality series "Duck Dynasty," in West Monroe, La., Oct. 3, 2012. The A&E reality show about a Louisiana family that makes duck calls is growing in popularity. (J. Patterson/The New York Times)

the ever-growing list of reality shows about wrangling alligators and catfish and wild hogs. Where most of those shows are one-note and aggressively low brow, "Duck Dynasty" has a varied cast of characters who fit together seamlessly, and any idiocy is deliberate. Sure, making an impromptu duck pond in the warehouse loading dock, as some of the guys did in a Season 1 episode, might not have been the most productive use of time, but it was pretty funny. "Duck Dynasty" is loosely centered on the Duck Commander business, which is headed by Willie Robertson, 39, the third of Phil and Kay's four sons.

Very little duck-call-making actually takes place in any given episode. Instead the focus is likely to be some harebrained project instigated by Willie's older brother Jase, or Phil's obsession with ridding his land of beavers, or Kay's determination to open a restaurant, or Uncle Si's efforts to give driving pointers to a young member of the clan, or some similar bit of frivolousness. □

# O'Reilly, Stewart tangle in mock political debate

JOSH LEDERMAN

Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — There were all the trappings of a high-octane presidential debate: the over-the-top declarations, the pre-practiced zingers and the schmaltzy appeals to America's truest values. But the presidential candidates were nowhere to be

the lanky O'Reilly when he wanted to drive a point home.

"I like you much better that way," O'Reilly quipped at one point as he gazed up at his ideological foe.

The political feud between the two caffeinated TV personalities dates back more than a decade. Much like family members



Comedy Central's Jon Stewart, left, and Bill O'Reilly tape an interview in New York. Stewart and O'Reilly, a celebrity odd couple with a history of public political feuds, tangle in a sold-out debate in Washington. The so-called "Rumble in the Air-Conditioned Auditorium" offers a jocular sideshow to the series of three more somber debates this month between President Barack Obama and Republican Mitt Romney.

(AP Photo/Peter Kramer)

found.

In their place Saturday were two celebrity gabbers who have claimed their stakes to the polar opposite ends of the political spectrum: Bill O'Reilly and Jon Stewart. The political odd-couple came to Washington ready to tangle in an event mockingly dubbed "The Rumble in the Air-Conditioned Auditorium."

Choice words not suitable for the faint of heart dotted the 90-minute exchange between the Fox News anchor and the star of Comedy Central's "The Daily Show," who bantered aggressively but good-naturedly over birth control, President George W. Bush and the so-called "War on Christmas."

Stewart came prepped with a mechanical pedestal he used to elevate himself in the air, making the height-challenged comedian appear taller than

who just can't resist pushing each other's buttons over Thanksgiving stuffing. Stewart and O'Reilly love to disagree, but appear to hold nothing against each other once the latest spat has run its course. The two have appeared on each other's programs since 2001, but the face-off Saturday at The George Washington University marked their first head-to-head debate.

Appearing wholly presidential in dark jackets and face makeup under a sign reading "Yum, this banner tastes like freedom," the two quickly turned to talk of government spending and the 47 percent of Americans that Republican Mitt Romney said in a video are dependent on government.

Stewart, defending government involvement in health care and social programs, said the U.S. has always been an entitlement nation. □



## Jobs Report: Cooked Or Correct?



**JOE NOCERA**

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"Unbelievable job numbers," tweeted Jack Welch, the iconic former boss of General Electric, on Friday morning, moments after the Bureau of Labor Statistics released its September jobs figures. "These Chicago guys will do anything," he continued. "Can't debate so change numbers." The jobs numbers, unquestionably, gave a boost to the Obama campaign, still reeling from the president's poor debate performance. While the bureau's survey of businesses showed a ho-hum rise of 114,000 in nonfarm employment, the unemployment rate had somehow dropped from 8.1 percent in August to 7.8 percent, far exceeding expectations. Thus, a month before the election, and for the first time in Barack Obama's presidency, unemployment was under 8 percent.

Welch smelled conspiracy. And he wasn't alone. "Total data manipulation," tweeted a writer at Zero Hedge, a financial news blog. "Such a farce." Fox News spent much of Friday morning piling on.

It's worth pointing out that the last time anyone accused the Bureau of Labor Statistics of being politically motivated was when Richard Nixon did so in 1971. Upset that the bureau was releasing figures showing higher unemployment during his re-election campaign, he asked his hatchet man, Charles Colson, to investigate the bureau's top officials, including its chief, Julius Shiskin.

So Point No. 1: The idea that a handful of career bureaucrats, their jobs se-

cure no matter who is in the White House, would manipulate the unemployment data to help the president, is ludicrous. Jack Welch knows it, too; when I called him Friday afternoon, he quickly backpedaled. "I'm not accusing anybody of anything," he protested. But he went on to add that everything he's seen suggests that the economy remains in the doldrums, and it just didn't seem possible that the unemployment rate could have dropped so drastically, and so quickly.

Hence, Point No. 2: There is, indeed, something a little strange about the way the country derives its employment statistics. It turns out that the statistics the bureau releases each month are generated by two different reports. One, called the establishment report, is a survey of businesses. That's where the 114,000 additional jobs comes from.

The second is a survey of 55,000 households, where people are asked about their employment status. Extrapolating from the survey, the bureau concluded that an additional 873,000 people had found work in September. It is that number that brought the unemployment rate from 8.1 percent to 7.8 percent. When I asked a bureau spokeswoman why there was such divergence between the two numbers, she said she had no idea. "The reports are totally separate," she said.

When I put the same question to economists, they shrugged. Maybe it was because an additional 582,000 Americans were working part time, which doesn't show up in payroll statistics. Maybe it was because of increased government employment. For some unexplained reason, there is always an uptick in September. ("Maybe it has something to do with going back to school," said Mark Zandi of Moody's Analytics, who quickly added, "I'm just guessing here.") In any case, it wasn't anything economists hadn't seen before. □



## Of Hooters, Zombies And Senators



**GAIL COLLINS**

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Today, let's take a look at debates that do not involve Barack Obama and Mitt Romney. You can thank me later.

I am talking about the races for the U.S. Senate, people. Attention must be paid! And, as a reward, we can also discuss a new campaign ad featuring zombies.

There are 33 Senate contests this year, although voters in some of the states may not have noticed there's anything going on. In Texas, for instance, Paul Sadler, a Democrat, has had a tough time getting any attention in his battle against the Tea Party fan favorite Ted Cruz. Except, perhaps, when he called Cruz a "troll" in their first debate.

In Utah, Scott Howell, a Democrat, has been arguing that if the 78-year-old Sen. Orrin Hatch wins, he might "die before his term is through." Suggesting a longtime incumbent is over the hill is a venerable election technique, but you really are supposed to be a

little more delicate about it. Howell also proposed having 29 debates. The fact that Hatch agreed to only two was, he claimed, proof of the senator's fading stamina.

Nobody in Massachusetts could have missed the fact that there's a Senate race going on. In their last debate, Scott Brown and Elizabeth Warren sounded like two angry squirrels trapped in a small closet. A high point came when the candidates were asked to name their ideal Supreme Court justice. "That's a great question!" Brown said brightly, in what appeared to be a stall for time. He came up with Antonin Scalia. Then, after boos from the audience, Brown added more names, until he had picked about half the current court, from John Roberts to Sonia Sotomayor. Meanwhile, in Nebraska, the Democrat Bob Kerrey began his debate remarks with: "First of all, let me assure you that I'm still Bob Kerrey." This seemed to be a bad sign.

There are actually about only a dozen Senate races in which there is serious suspense about who's going to win. To the Republicans' dismay, many of them are in states that were supposed to be a lock for the GOP.

Tea Party pressure produced several terrible candidates. We have all heard about Todd Akin in Missouri, who claimed after a recent

debate that Sen. Claire McCaskill wasn't sufficiently "ladylike." Since then, Akin has doubled down on a claim that doctors frequently perform abortions on women who aren't pregnant.

In others, the Republicans found awful candidates without any help from the far right.

Sen. Bill Nelson in Florida received the gift of Rep. Connie Mack IV as his Republican opponent, and promptly unveiled an ad calling Mack "a promoter for Hooters with a history of barroom brawling, altercation and road rage." Mack's fortunes seem to have been sliding ever since. Recently, while he was greeting voters at a Donut Hole cafe, one elderly couple asked him to get them a menu.

Some Democratic candidates are also turning out to be stronger than anticipated – like Arizona's Richard Carmona, a Hispanic physician who served as surgeon general under President George W. Bush. Carmona is a Vietnam combat veteran who worked as a SWAT team leader for the Pima County Sheriff's Department. "In 1992," his campaign biography reports, "he rappelled from a helicopter to rescue a paramedic stranded on a mountain-side when their medevac helicopter crashed during a snowstorm, inspiring a made-for-TV movie." □



# Slow-burning rebellion against Chile on Easter Island



**Moais, the towering statues carved from volcanic tuff, at Rano Rarakui on Easter Island, Sept. 29, 2012. Inspired by other parts of Polynesia that have obtained political autonomy or are seeking independence, leaders of the Rapanui people on the island are mounting a rebellion against Chile.**

(Tomas Munita/The New York Times)

**SIMON ROMERO**

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**HANGA ROA, Easter Island**

– Not long ago, as some elders of the Rapanui people wistfully recall, a sense of profound isolation pervaded this windswept speck of land in the Pacific. Horses were the dominant mode of transportation, flights to the outside world were few and far between, and the island's Polynesian language enjoyed dominance in most spheres of life.

Now, so many cars roam the roads of this fragile island (it is smaller than Martha's Vineyard) that Rapanui grimly joke how they may outnumber the moai, the prized towering statues their ancestors carved from volcanic tuff, beguiling archaeologists. Spanish, the language of Chile, which annexed Easter Island in 1888, now prevails across much of the island. New luxury hotels catering to rich Chileans and moneyed foreign visitors charge \$1,100 a night, accentuating a festering income gap. And there is yet another feature of life in Chile, a nation grappling with fierce anti-government protests by students and indigenous groups, which has made it here: violent clashes with security forces.

Inspired by other parts of Polynesia that have obtained a considerable degree of political autonomy or are in the process of seeking independence, leaders of the Rapanui people are

mounting a slow-burning rebellion against Chile. Their movement on the island – which they call Rapa Nui, not Easter Island – presents a unique test for a Latin American country: quelling a challenge to its rule in the middle of the South Pacific. “Our nearest border is with the Pitcairn Islands, not Chile,” said Leviante Araki, 54, president of the Rapa Nui Parliament, a pro-independence organization, referring to the British overseas territory more than 1,200 miles to the west.

Newcomers from mainland Chile, which is almost twice that distance in the other direction, are fueling a sharp increase in Easter Island's population, increasing it by 54 percent to 5,800 over the last decade. Continentals, as mainland Chileans are called here, now slightly outnumber Rapanui on the island, at about 3,000 to 2,800, according to the mayor, Luz Zasso Paoa. Protests here have crystallized around the thwarted efforts by one prominent Rapanui clan, the Hitorangi, to reclaim land on which a luxury hotel was recently completed. But other sources of ire among the Rapanui have also emerged, including bitterness over privileges like subsidized housing that have been extended to some mainland Chileans, competition for jobs in the lucrative tourism trade and the mainland's control over the island's affairs. Security forces violently evicted

Rapanui protesters in 2010 who had occupied buildings and other sites. Images captured on cellphone cameras showed blood-stained Rapanui, drawing admonition from the United Nations last year over the use of force to resolve the island's problems. Though the situation has calmed somewhat since then, non-



**A tourist in Hanga Roa, Easter Island, Sept. 29, 2012. Inspired by other parts of Polynesia that have obtained political autonomy or are seeking independence, leaders of the Rapanui people on the island are mounting a rebellion against Chile.**

(Tomas Munita/The New York Times)

violent protests by the Rapanui have continued well into this year.

Despite the agitation, Easter Island still awes. Nearly a thousand monolithic moai remain strewn around volcanic craters and sandy shorelines, guarding the secrets of an island settled more than nine centuries ago by Polynesian explorers. Clusters of horses wildly roam the hills, as if Easter Island belonged to them.

But unresolved disputes over land and sovereignty, between the Rapanui

and continentals – and even among some of the Rapanui themselves – are clouding this superficially easygoing outpost. Rather than subjugating the autonomy movement, the crackdowns seem to have added to the resentment here, with the Rapa Nui Parliament now taking its fight to the courts by filing a lawsuit on the mainland this year seeking independence.

The group says the island's annexation, under an 1888 treaty, was made illegitimate by Chile's inequitable administration of it, including the removal of Rapanui from ancestral lands, their forced confinement to the town of Hanga Roa and the leasing of almost the entire island for decades to the Williamson-Balfour Co., a Scottish sheep-ranching concern.

Some Rapanui contend that their last king, Simeon Riro Kainga, was poisoned in 1898 during a visit to Chile's coast. The Rapa Nui

ited Rapanui from leaving the island and publicly flogged islanders as punishment. He escaped on a fishing boat to the Cook Islands, more than 3,200 miles away.

Leaders of the Rapa Nui Parliament said they fully expect to lose the independence lawsuit on the mainland, viewing it as a step to pursue the claims in venues like the International Court of Justice. One model under study here is the Cook Islands, a self-governing parliamentary democracy in a “free association” with New Zealand. Still, pro-independence sentiment, while supported by sizable factions of Rapanui, is by no means unanimous. Alberto Hotus, head of the Council of Elders, from which the Rapa Nui Parliament splintered off, pointed out that the island still depends on Chile for its health care, food, telecommunications and flights to the mainland.

“If we cut ties to Chile,” he said, “we will return to eating pasture.”

The authorities on the mainland are cautiously following the talk of independence. Carlos Llancaqueo, President Sebastian Pinera's commissioner to Easter Island, said officials were well aware of the island's problems and were moving ahead with plans to improve the power grid, potable water systems and bilingual education in both the Rapa Nui language and Spanish.

Additionally, Llancaqueo said new legislation governing migration and residency is under preparation, but Chile's Constitution requires the Rapanui people to be consulted before the law is enacted, a process just getting underway. He said another proposal would give Easter Island greater control over its own finances, though the idea has languished for years; as it stands, the island is a province of the Region of Valparaiso, so decisions regarding funds for everything from education to infrastructure are made on the mainland, a five-hour flight away. □

Parliament last year unilaterally declared Valentino Riroroko Tuki, the 81-year-old grandson of the last monarch, as the new king, a step in its legal battle to void the annexation treaty. Still, other Rapanui groups have their own aspirants to the throne, reflecting the island's fractious internal politics. “This island was operated like a concentration camp,” said Riroroko Tuki, a mild-mannered farmer who gained fame for resisting oppressive rule in the 1950s, when Chile's navy prohib-